

'Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge', Trail Creation

Downham High Warren, High Lodge
Santon Downham, Suffolk

Client:

Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge

Date:

January 2018

HER No. STN 167
Archaeological Monitoring Report
SACIC Report No. 2018/010
Author: M. Sommers
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'Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge'
Trail Creation
Downham High Warren, High Lodge
Santon Downham, Suffolk

HER No. STN 167

Archaeological Monitoring Report

SACIC Report No. 2018/010

Author: M. Sommers

Editor: John Craven

Report Date: February 2018

HER Information

Report Number: 2016/032

Site Name: 'Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge'
Trail Creation. Downham High Warren, High
Lodge, Santon Downham, Suffolk

Planning Application No: DC/17/0484/FUL

Date of Fieldwork: 6th November 2017 to 25th January 2018

Grid Reference: TL 7984 8454

Client/Funding Body: Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High
Lodge / Forestry Commission

Curatorial Officer: Rachael Abraham

OASIS Reference: suffolka1-296282

Site Code: STN 167

Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:

<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>

Disclaimer

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Team alone. Ultimately the need for further work will be determined by the Local Planning Authority and its Archaeological Advisors when a planning application is registered. Suffolk County Council's archaeological contracting services cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to the clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

Prepared By: M. Sommers

Date: 16/02/2018

Approved By: John Craven

Position: Project Manager

Date: 22/02/2018

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Summary

Archaeological monitoring of the groundworks associated with the construction of a surfaced trail through the forests at the High Lodge Visitor Centre, Santon Downham, Suffolk, was carried out. Monitoring was restricted to a small number of areas where the trail ran close to, or across, known heritage assets. One of the main areas of concern was where the trail crossed a series of earthworks that marked the boundary of the medieval warren of Downham High Lodge although in the event the trail passed through existing gaps and entailed very limited groundwork. Two other areas were monitored, a length alongside Horseshoe Pit and another close to the site of the former High Lodge Farm, but, primarily due to the limited nature of the groundworks, no features or deposits were noted. (Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge).

1. Introduction

A program of archaeological monitoring of the construction of a multi-user heritage trail, a part of the Forestry Commission's Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) project 'Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge' at the High Lodge Visitor Centre, Santon Downham, Suffolk, was carried out by Suffolk Archaeology CIC (SACIC) in a series of site visits between 11th November 2017 and the 25th January 2018.

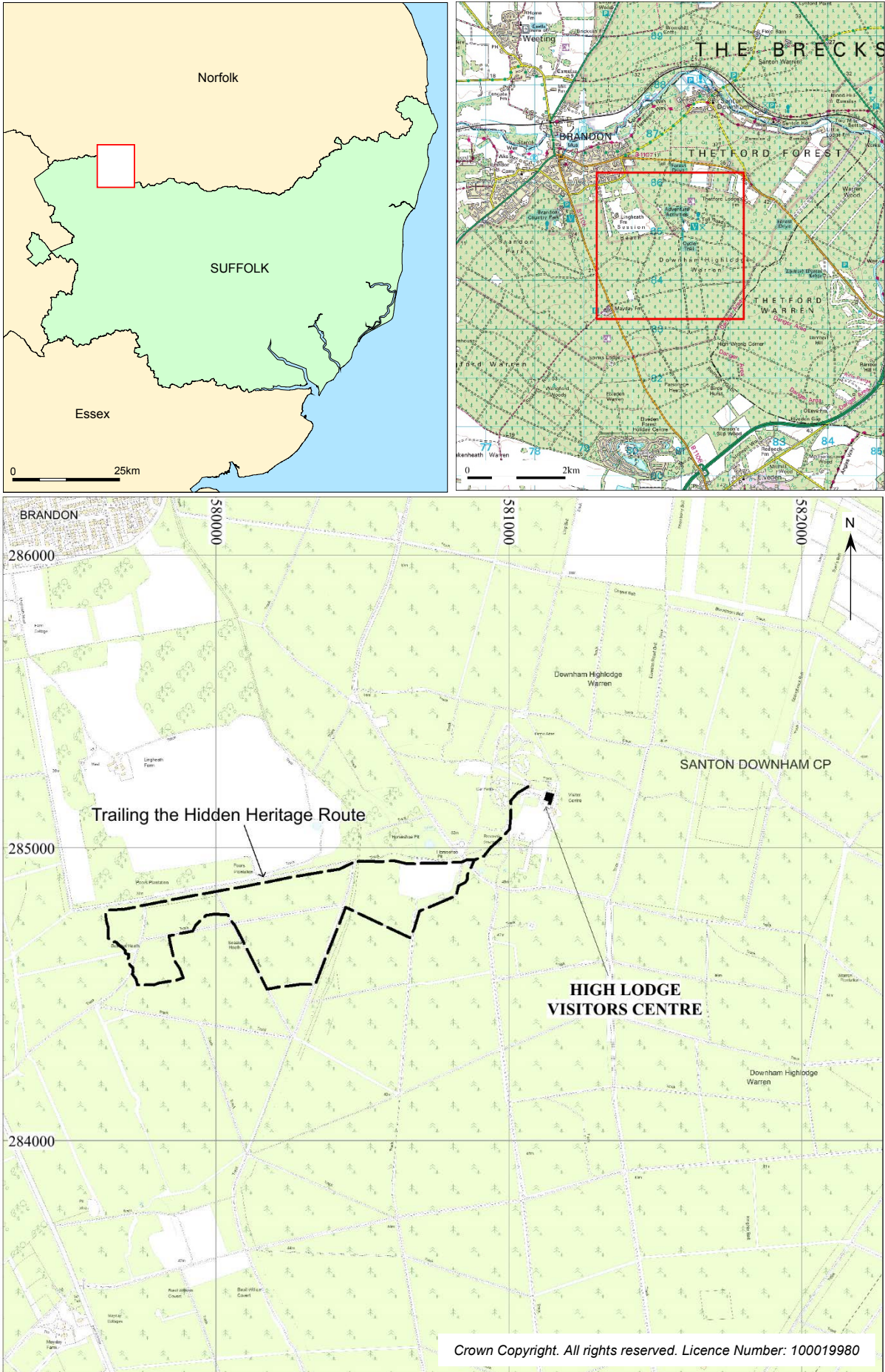
The archaeological monitoring was required by a condition on the approved planning application DC/17/0484/FUL, in accordance with paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework, at the request of Rachael Abraham of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), the Archaeological Advisor to the local planning authority (LPA).

The route of the Heritage Trail (Fig. 1) was selected following the results of an earlier Rapid Archaeological Identification Survey by SACIC (Sommers 2016) which identified and mapped archaeological features and monuments, primarily earthworks, along four proposed routes. The groundworks for the trail, generally a 2.5m wide path with drainage ditches on each side, therefore had the potential to damage archaeological deposits.

A Heritage Management Plan (Robertson 2016) was prepared as part of the Stage 2 HLF application. This document discussed the route in full and outlined a mitigation program, including several areas where archaeological monitoring would be required 'to manage the impact of the heritage trail on archaeological features'. The plan was accepted by SCCAS and was used in lieu of a formal SCCAS monitoring Brief.

SACIC were subsequently commissioned by the Forestry Commission to carry out the monitoring project, the aim of which was to record all archaeological deposits damaged or removed by the trails construction, and produced a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for approval by SCCAS on behalf of the LPA prior to commencement (Appendix 1).

The National Grid Reference for the approximate centre of the heritage trail is TL 7984 8454. The trail is approximately 4km in length although only a total of c.360m of this required archaeological monitoring.



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Figure 1. Location plan

2. Topography and landscape

The local topography comprises flat or very gently rolling plateaux of freely-draining, but agriculturally poor, sandy soils. These soils gave rise to the Brecklands landscape type and once comprised vast areas of open gorse covered heathland, although large parts have now been converted to arable farmland or large tree plantations. The area in which the survey was undertaken lies at heights that vary between c.25m to 50m above Ordnance Datum.

The underlying geology comprises Cretaceous Chalk overlain by a chalky and flinty drift geology, which can be up to 3 or 4 metres thick, though it is often thinner on undulating or sloping ground. The drift deposit is essentially a mix of chalk and sand, often mixed with angular flints, which weathers to give light sandy soils.

The trail runs through areas that primarily consist of evergreen tree plantations maintained by the Forestry Commission. The majority of these were planted in the early 20th century, although some existing plantations were incorporated. They have been harvested and replanted at varying stages resulting in blocks, or compartments, of trees of different stages of growth along with areas that have been clear felled and are awaiting replanting.

3. Existing historic data

A number of known sites and other potential heritage assets have been recorded in the forest areas around the High Lodge Visitor Centre, details of which can be found in the initial report (Sommers 2016) on the surveys undertaken in relation to this project. The report's summary is as follows:

A Rapid Archaeological Investigation Survey was undertaken within an area of Forestry Commission land centred on the High Lodge Visitor Centre, Santon Downham, Suffolk. The aim of the survey was to inform proposals for the creation of a multi-user heritage trail. Three proposed 5km trials were surveyed and a number of earthworks of potentially archaeological origin were recorded. The majority of these had been identified by previous surveys and are recorded on the County Historic Environment Record. Newly identified features that have been submitted to the HER for inclusion consisted of two extraction pits (?19th century), a possible

prehistoric burial mound, a series of post-medieval field or plantation boundaries, and two further banks that are possibly related to the known warren banks.

In relation to this project the main areas of interest consisted of a complex of earthen banks forming the boundary between the medieval warrens of High Lodge and Brandon (HER ref. STN 035), which are crossed twice by the proposed trail, Horseshoe Pit, a circular pond which lies concentric to a ditch and outer bank (HER ref. STN 058), and the area of the former High Lodge Farm, a 18th or early 19th century farm complex, which is believed to have incorporated the original medieval warrener's lodge.

4. Methodology

The monitoring was achieved through the visual examination of the mechanical excavation of the trail route whilst the work was underway in order to identify and record any significant archaeological features and/or deposits that may be exposed. Scaled plans and sections would have been drawn had any significant remains been exposed, but in the event the prime method of recording was through the use of digital photography with appropriate scales in place.

The groundwork for the trail was limited to the removal of up to 0.15m of the overlying topsoil to create a clean and even surface upon which a geotextile was laid. This was then covered in a layer of crushed stone, which was rolled and surface dressed to the form the trail (Plate 1). In the vicinity of the former High Lodge Farm the removal of a number of tree stumps, which entailed significantly deeper excavation than that required for the trail, was also monitored.

5. Results

Four separate lengths of the trail were monitored (see Fig. 2).

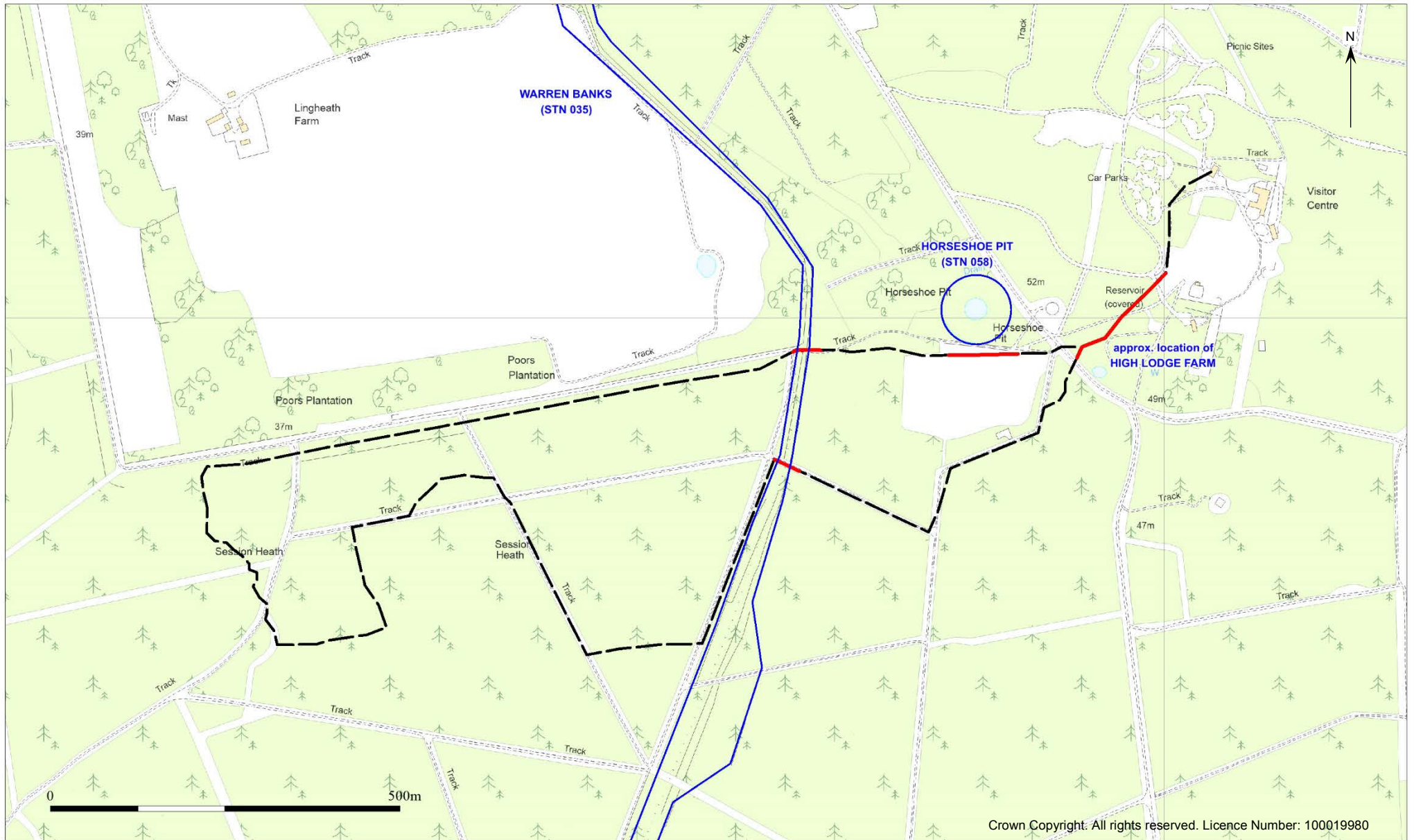
At the two points where the trail crossed the warren bank it was designed to pass through existing gaps in the earthwork. For the trail's construction, little to no material was removed and the existing ground surface was simply smoothed with the back of the machine bucket before the laying of the geotextile. The surface was then built up with layers of crushed stone (Plate 2). Consequently no further damage was caused to the warren banks.

The length of trail running to the south of Horseshoe Pit was also monitored. The topsoil in this area was relatively thin and occasional areas of natural subsoil were exposed (Plate 3) but no archaeological features or artefacts were identified.

In the vicinity of the High Lodge Farm site again the topsoil was relatively thin and patches of natural subsoil were exposed. Also, a number of tree stumps were removed entailing moderately large scale excavations, up to depths of c.0.8m (Plates 4 and 5), but again no archaeological features or artefacts were identified.

6. Discussion

No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were identified during the monitoring of the trail's construction. This is primarily due to the very limited nature of the groundworks and the mitigation strategies undertaken with regard to the works across the warren banks. It should not be seen as evidence for a complete absence of buried archaeological in the areas monitored.



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Figure 2. Trail route and areas monitored

7. Archive deposition

The paper, digital and photographic archive will be sent to the County HER, under the event number STN 167, at the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service store in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.

A copy of the report will be uploaded to the OASIS on-line database (suffolka1-296282).

8. Acknowledgements

Project management was undertaken by John Craven. The monitoring fieldwork was carried out by Simon Cass and Mark Sommers.

The report was prepared by Mark Sommers and edited by John Craven.

Special thanks go to Anne Mason, Project Manager for the 'Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge' HLF project, for initiating the project and driving it forward, and to Owen Manson and the Forestry Commission staff at High Lodge for their help and assistance during the survey.

9. Bibliography

Robertson, D., 2016, *Trailing The Hidden Heritage of High Lodge, Heritage Management Plan*. Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service/Norfolk Monuments Management Project report, unpublished.

Sommers, M., 2016, *Downham High Warren, High Lodge, Santon Downham, Suffolk*. SACIC Report No. 2016/032.

Plates



Plate 1. Typical trail construction (in area of former High Lodge Farm)



Plate 2. Trail crossing through a gap in the warren bank (bank visible to the right)



Plate 3. Soil strip in area to south of Horseshoe Pit



Plate 4. Tree stump removal



Plate 5. Soil profile exposed by tree stump removal

Appendix 1. Written Scheme of Investigation



'Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge' Trail Creation

Downham Warren High Lodge, Santon
Downham, Suffolk

Client:
Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge

Date:
September 2017

Written Scheme of Investigation and Risk Assessment –
Archaeological Monitoring
Author: John Craven
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Project details

Planning Application No:	DC/17/0484/FUL
Grid Reference:	TL 802847
Site Code / HER Event No:	TBC
OASIS Reference:	296282

Project Start date	09/10/2017
Project Duration:	c. 8 days

SACIC Job Code:	STNHLD002
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Contacts

Curatorial Officer:	Rachael Abraham (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service)	01284 741232
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Client/Funding Body:	Anne Mason (Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge)	
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SACIC Project Manager:	John Craven	01449 900121
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1. Introduction

- Suffolk Archaeology CIC (SACIC) has been contracted to monitor groundworks for the creation of a multi-user heritage trail, as part of the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) project 'Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge' at the High Lodge Visitor Centre, Downham High Warren, High Lodge, Santon Downham, Suffolk.
- The archaeological monitoring is required by a condition on the approved planning application DC/17/0484/FUL, in accordance with paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework,

which was requested by Rachael Abraham of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), the Archaeological Advisor to the planning authority.

- The condition has been placed as the groundworks for the proposed trail, generally a 2.5m wide path with drainage ditches on each side, have the potential to damage archaeological deposits. The aim of the monitoring is to record all such deposits which are damaged or removed by the sites development.
- The route of the Heritage Trail (Fig. 1) has been selected following the results of an earlier Rapid Archaeological Identification Survey by SACIC (Sommers 2016) which identified and mapped archaeological features and monuments, primarily earthworks, along four proposed routes.
- The survey results were subsequently used to support the creation of a Heritage Management Plan (Robertson 2016) as part of the Stage 2 HLF application. This document, which was based upon discussions between the author, SCCAS and the Forestry Commission, outlined a mitigation program *'to manage the impact of the heritage trail on archaeological features... as follows:'*
 1. *The route of the trail will be designed to avoid archaeological earthworks in every location possible.*
 2. *In a number of places the trail will need cross the line of archaeological earthworks. Where crossing the line of earthworks is unavoidable, existing crossing points (primarily existing forestry rides) will be used.*
 3. *In a number of locations the trail passes through areas where archaeological deposits and features are known to survive below ground. In these areas it is expected the new trail will follow the line of existing surfaced paths and no drainage ditches/gullies will be created.*
 4. *The chosen trail route deviates slightly from the three routes that were assessed by the 2016 Rapid Identification Survey (see Figure 2). As a result, not all of its length has been studied and there is potential for the trail to disturb previously unrecorded archaeological earthworks. In the delivery phases of the project, a second Rapid Identification Survey will examine the previously unstudied section (as shown on Figure 2; 0.17 square kilometres). If this work reveals previously unrecorded earthworks, it may be necessary to re-route the trail.*
 5. *All works off the trail route, including areas for the storage of construction materials and vehicle movements, must avoid archaeological earthworks.*
 6. *Archaeological monitoring by an archaeological contractor will be required in a number of locations.*
- The 2nd Rapid Identification Survey required by Point 4 on the mitigation program was carried out in July 2017 by Mark Sommers and included as an Appendix to the original report. No further earthworks were identified.
- The Heritage Management Plan subsequently discussed the route in full and highlighted several areas where archaeological monitoring would be required, as per Point 6 of the mitigation program, as groundworks have the potential to disturb archaeological deposits (Fig. 2). These are:
 - Monitoring of all groundworks in 500m section of trail in area of Visitor Centre and Downham High Warren Lodge if the new trail cannot follow the line of existing surfaced paths, or if new drainage ditches/gullies are created. To include monitoring of excavations for the Virtual Past Timeline Monitor, its electricity supply, and Audio Listening Posts.
 - Monitoring of all groundworks in section of trail to south of Horseshoe Pit.
 - Monitoring of all groundworks at two points where the trail will cross the line of the Downham High Warren perimeter banks.
- In the absence of an SCCAS Monitoring Brief this WSI assumes that the mitigation strategy outlined by Robertson in the Heritage Management Plan, as regards Point 6 and the archaeological monitoring of selected sections of the trail, is an acceptable program of works, and that completion of the monitoring will fulfil the requirements of the planning condition.
- The following archaeological method statement describes how the specified monitoring works will be carried out and is designed to address the requirements of a typical SCCAS Monitoring Brief.
- This WSI concerns the monitoring of the Heritage Trail construction only. Any other elements of work associated with the wider HLF project that require archaeological mitigation will need separate documentation.

2. Archaeological method statement

2.1. Preparation

- The project will be managed by SACIC Project Manager John Craven in accordance with Management of Research in the Historic Environment (Historic England, 2015).
- SACIC will be given 5 days notice of the commencement of the fieldwork to enable the works to be monitored effectively.
- An OASIS online record has been initiated and key fields in details, location and creator forms have been completed.
- An event number and site code have been requested from the Suffolk HER Officer and will be included on all future project documentation.
- A full Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER) search has previously been completed as part of the preceding survey (Sommers 2016) and will be used to inform monitoring fieldwork and reporting.

2.2. Fieldwork

- All groundworks in specified areas will be monitored as they progress by an SACIC Project Officer or Supervisor, in close liaison with the developer/contractor. Adequate allowance has been made within the quote cost to cover the recording of exposed archaeological deposits.
- Fieldwork standards will be guided by '*Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*' (Gurney 2003) and '*Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*' (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014).
- Exposed surfaces from soil stripping/trenching etc. will be examined for archaeological features and finds and limited hand cleaning will be undertaken to clarify small areas as necessary and as health and safety considerations allow. Exposed archaeological features will be sectioned by hand with sampling at a normal standard for medieval and earlier deposits (i.e. 100% of structural features or graves/cremations, 50% of contained features e.g. pits, and 10-20% of linear features). Cremations will be 100% bagged and taken as samples. If thought appropriate and of archaeological benefit a metal detector search of exposed surfaces and spoil will be undertaken.
- Normal SACIC conventions, compatible with the County Historic Environment Record (HER), will be used during the site recording. Site records will be made using a continuous numbering system. Site plans will be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate, either by hand or using a RTK GPS. Plans and sections of individual features, soil layers etc will be recorded at 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate. A digital photographic record will be made throughout the monitoring works.
- All pre-modern finds will be kept and no discard policy will be considered until all the finds have been processed and assessed. All finds will be brought back to the SACIC office at the end of each day for processing. Much of the archive and assessment preparation work will be done inhouse, but in some circumstances it may be necessary to send some categories of finds to specialists working in archaeology and university departments in other parts of the country.
- Bulk environmental (40 litre) soil samples will be taken from selected archaeological features where possible and retained until an appropriate specialist has assessed their potential for palaeo-environmental remains. Decisions will be made on the need for further analysis following this assessment. If necessary advice will be sought from the Historic England Regional Science Advisor (East of England), on the need for specialist environmental sampling.

- In the event of human remains being encountered on the site a Ministry of Justice licence for removal of human remains will be obtained. Any such find would require work in that part of the site to stop until the human remains have been removed.

2.3. Post-excavation reporting

- The post-excavation work will be managed by Richenda Goffin. Specialist finds staff will be experienced in local and regional types and periods for their field. Members of the project team will be responsible for taking the project to archive and assessment levels.
- All site data will be entered on a computerised database compatible with the County HER. All site plans and sections will be scanned to form a digital archive. Ordnance Datum levels will be on the section sheets.
- 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. Finds will be recorded and archived to minimum standards laid down by relevant groups (e.g. the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group, the Study Group for Roman Pottery or the Medieval Pottery Research Group). Finds quantification will fully cover weights and numbers of finds by OP and context with a clear statement for specialists on the degree of apparent residuality observed.
- Metal finds will be x-rayed if appropriate 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 Institute for Conservation (ICON) standards. All coins will be identified to a standard acceptable to normal numismatic research.
- Environmental samples will be processed and assessed in accordance with English Heritage guidance (Campbell *et al* 2011).
- A full monitoring report summarising all the findings and containing a full assessment of all finds and samples will be produced, consistent with the principles of MoRPHE (Historic England 2015), to a scale commensurate with the archaeological results. A draft digital copy will be submitted to SCCAS for approval within 6 months of completion of fieldwork. The report will contain all appropriate scale plans and sections. The report will include a statement as to the value and significance of the results in the context of the Regional Research Framework for the East of England (Brown and Glazebrook, 2000, Medlycott 2011). The report will form the basis for full discharge of the relevant condition.
- The report will include a summary in the established format for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History.
- On approval a digital .pdf, and a printed and bound copy of the report, will be submitted to the County HER. An unbound copy of the report will be included with the project archive. A digital and fully georeferenced vector plan showing the application area and trench locations, compatible with MapInfo software, will also be supplied.
- A digital .pdf copy of the approved report will be supplied to the client, together with our final invoice for outstanding fees. Printed and bound copies will be supplied on request.

2.4. Archive

- The online OASIS form for the project will be completed and a .pdf version of the report uploaded to the OASIS website for online publication by the Archaeological Data Service. A copy of the completed project OASIS form will be included as an appendix.

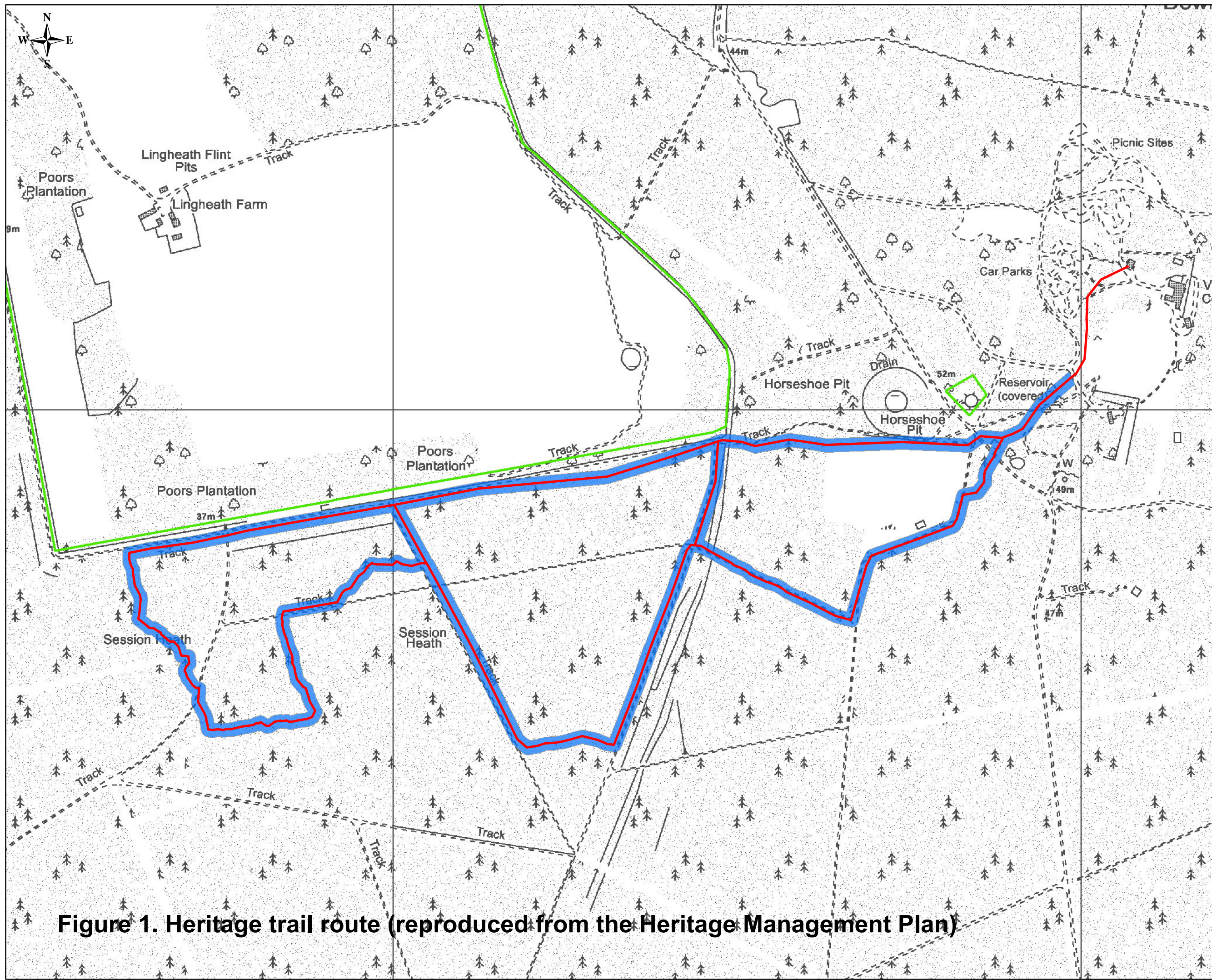
- The finds from the project will be deposited in the SCCAS archaeological store together with the project archive. The project costing includes the fee charged by SCCAS for this service. A form transferring ownership of the archive to SCCAS will be completed and included in the project archive.
- The project archive will be consistent *with Management of Research in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE, Historic England 2015). The project archive will also meet the requirements detailed in 'Archaeological Archives in Suffolk' (SCCAS 2017).
- Exceptions from the above include material covered by the Treasure Act which will be reported and submitted to the appropriate authorities, and human skeletal remains which will be stored within the archive until a decision is reached upon their long term future, i.e. reburial or permanent storage.
- The client and/or landowner will be made aware that if they choose not to use the SCCAS storage facility they will be expected to make alternative arrangements for the long term storage of the archive that meet the requirements of SCCAS.

2.5. Project Staff

Project Manager:	John Craven
Site monitoring:	SACIC Project Officer/Supervisor (TBC)
Finds Manager/Post Roman finds:	Richenda Goffin
Finds quantification/Small finds:	Dr Ruth Beveridge
Roman Pottery/General finds:	Ioannis Smyrnaio
Prehistoric pottery:	Anna Doherty (Archaeology South-East)
Prehistoric flint:	Sarah Bates (freelance)
Faunal remains:	Julie Curl (freelance)
Human remains/Post Roman pottery and CBM:	Sue Anderson (freelance)
Environmental samples:	Anna West

2.6. Bibliography

- Brown, N and Glazebrook, J. (Eds), 2000, *Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. Research Agenda and Strategy*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper No. 8.
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Heritage Trail
High Lodge

Legend

- 2.5m Wide Trail
- 20m Development Buffer
- FC Management Area

Figure 1. Heritage trail route (reproduced from the Heritage Management Plan)

Figure 14: Areas along the proposed trail route (brown) requiring archaeological mitigation

Areas requiring archaeological mitigation are shown in blue (excluding Audio Listening Posts)

Compiled by Historic Environment Service on 22 October 2016

Scale 1:5000



Union House, Gressenhall, East Dereham, Norfolk, NR20 4DR

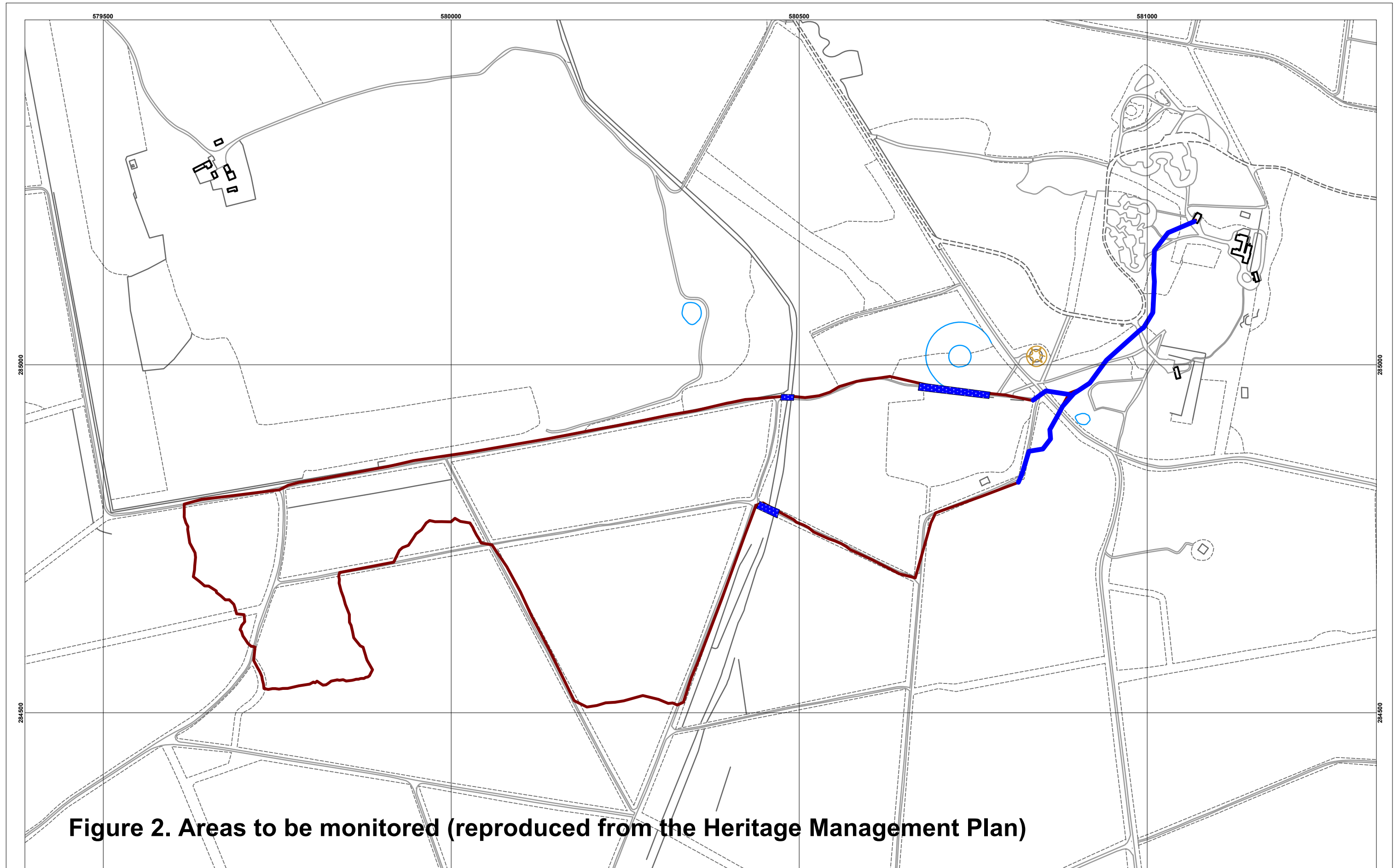


Figure 2. Areas to be monitored (reproduced from the Heritage Management Plan)

Appendix 2. OASIS form

OASIS ID: suffolka1-296282

Project details

Project name	'Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge' Trail Creation, Downham Warren High Lodge
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring of the groundworks associated with the construction of a surfaced trail through the forests at the High Lodge Visitor Centre, Santon Downham, Suffolk, was carried out. Monitoring was restricted to a small number of areas where the trail ran close to, or across, known heritage assets. One of the main areas of concern was where the trail crossed a series of earthworks that marked the boundary of the medieval warren of Downham High Lodge although in the event the trail passed through existing gaps and entailed very limited groundwork. Two other areas were monitored, a length alongside Horseshoe Pit and another close to the site of the former High Lodge Farm, but, primarily due to the limited nature of the groundworks, no features or deposits were noted.
Project dates	Start: 06-11-2017 End: 25-01-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	STN 167 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Woodland 4 - Coniferous plantation
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Salvage Record"
Prompt	Voluntary/self-interest
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK FOREST HEATH SANTON DOWNHAM 'Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge' Trail Creation, Downham Warren High Lodge
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 7984 8454 52.428781615824 0.645489505332 52 25 43 N 000 38 43 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Suffolk Archaeology CIC
Project brief originator	Not applicable - not under planning jurisdiction
Project design originator	Suffolk Archaeology CIC
Project director/manager	John Craven
Project supervisor	Mark Sommers
Type of sponsor/funding body	developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Digital Archive ID	STN167
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Paper Archive ID	STN167
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Monitoring Report: 'Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge' trail creation Downham High Warren, High Lodge Santon Downham, Suffolk
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Sommers, M.
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Description	printed sheets of A4 paper with card covers and wire binding.

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