

SUFFOLK ARCHAEOLOGY

• A HISTORY OF EXPERTISE •

New School at Land North of Station Road Lakenheath, Suffolk

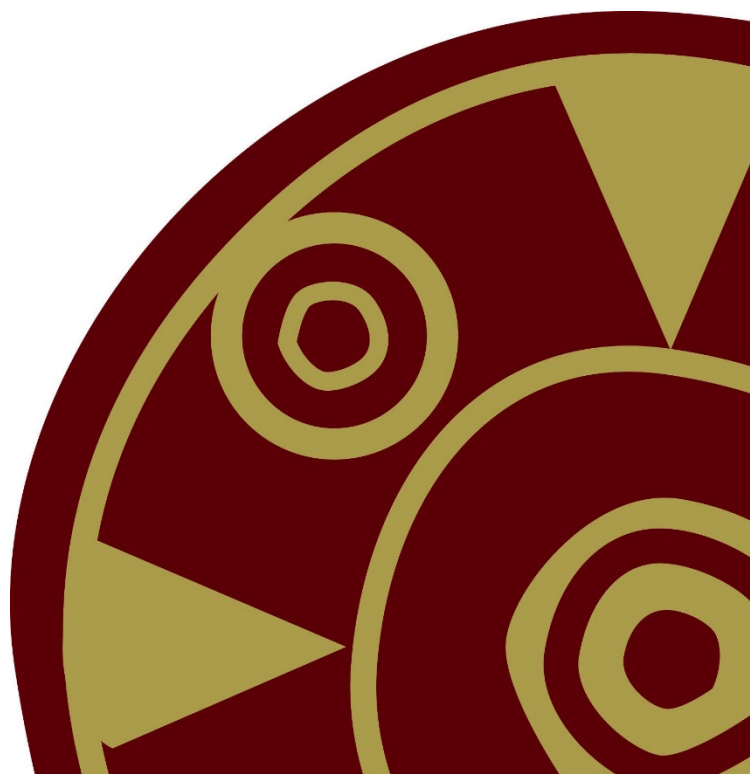
Client:

Concertus Design & Property Consultants Ltd & Cocksedge Building
Contractors Ltd

Date:

May 2018

LKH 411
Archaeological Evaluation Report
SACIC Report No. 2018/053
Author: M. Sommers
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New School at Land North of Station Road Lakenheath, Suffolk

LKH 411

Archaeological Evaluation Report

SACIC Report No. 2018/053

Author: Mark Sommers

Illustrations: Rui Santo

Editor: John Craven

Report Date: May 2018

HER Information

Site Code: LKH 411

Site Name: New School at Land North of Station Road,
Lakenheath, Suffolk

Report Number 2018/053

Planning Application No: DC/18/0644/CR3 and DC/18/0246/FUL

Date of Fieldwork: 14th and 15th May 2018

Grid Reference: TL 7196 8390

OASIS Reference: suffolka1-315417

Curatorial Officer: Rachael Abraham

Project Officer: Mark Sommers

Client/Funding Body: Concertus Design & Property Consultants
Cocksedge Building Contractors Ltd

HER Search Invoice No. 9213216

Client Reference:

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 Suffolk Archaeology CIC. 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 Archaeology CIC 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: Mark Sommers

Date: 04/06/2018

Approved By: John Craven

Position: Project Manager

Date: 08/06/2018

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on a parcel of land to the north of Station Road, Lakenheath, Suffolk, in advance of the construction of a new school. Eighteen trenches, totalling 540m in length, were excavated. Within one trench a ditch and a pit were recorded. The pit contained a single sherd of early medieval pottery, although this is likely to be residual in what is probably a post-medieval feature. The ditch is likely to be post-medieval in date. The site of what is probably a late post-medieval sand and gravel extraction pit was also noted. (Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology Community Interest Company, for Concertus Design & Property Consultants Ltd and Cocksedge Building Contractors Ltd).

1. Introduction

Planning permission has been sought for the construction of a new school and access road to be built on land to the north of Station Road, Lakenheath, Suffolk (application numbers DC/18/0644/CR3 and DC/18/0246/FUL). The Local Planning Authority (LPA) have been advised that any consent in relation to these applications should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins, in accordance with paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

The first stage of the programme of work, as specified in a Brief dated 12th January 2018 and produced by Rachael Abraham of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) for application DC/18/0644/CR3, was the undertaking of a trenched evaluation in order to ascertain what levels of archaeological evidence may be present within the development area and to inform any mitigation strategies that may then be deemed necessary. Following discussion with SCCAS it was agreed that the smaller access road site could be included under the same Brief and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) covering both sites was produced by Suffolk Archaeology Community Interest Company (SACIC). This WSI was submitted to, and subsequently approved by, SCCAS (a copy of the WSI can be found in Appendix 1).

The National Grid Reference for the approximate centre of the site is TL 7196 8390. Figure 1 comprises a location plan.

The archaeological evaluation was carried out on the 14th and 15th May 2018 by SACIC who were commissioned by Concertus Design & Property Consultants Ltd on behalf of their client, Suffolk County Council (application DC/18/0644/CR3) and Cocksedge Building Contractors Ltd (application DC/18/0246/FUL).

The evaluation area comprises part of a larger area that had been the subject of a geophysics survey and a previous phase of trial trench evaluation (Haskins 2014), undertaken in association with an earlier development proposal. The current brief called for a minimum of 4% sample of the proposed development site by area. The previous trenching was at a much lower density and consequently this requirement had not been met by the previous work resulting in a requirement for further trenching.

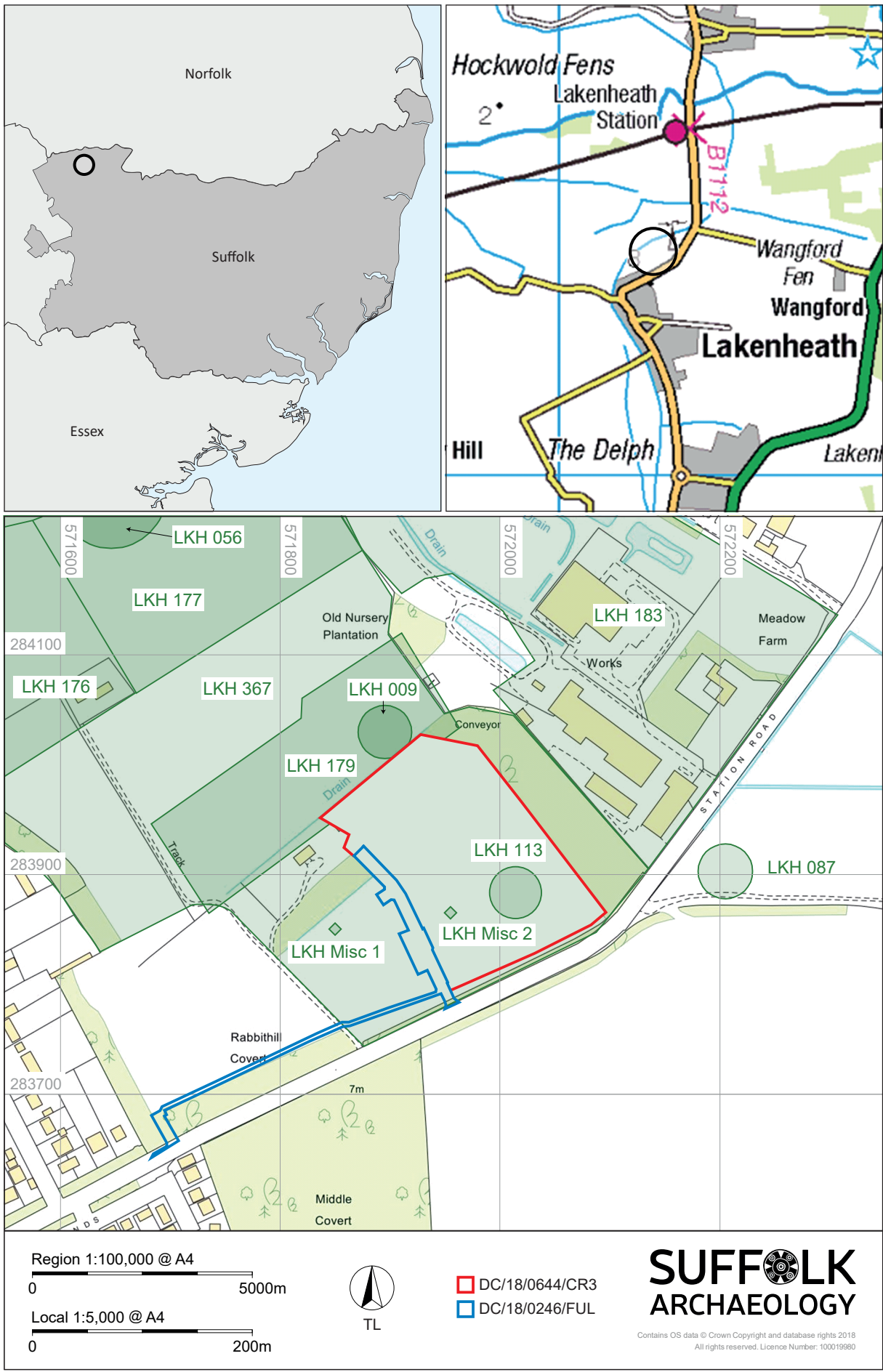


Figure 1. Site location (red) with HER (green)

2. Geology and topography

The development site consists of a roughly rectangular area of arable farmland fronting Station Road and with a belt of trees along the northwest edge. The local landscape consists of former heathland and is relatively level at a height of c.5mOD. It lies close to the edge of the fens, as marked by a drainage channel 500m to the northwest.

The British Geological Survey records the site as having underlying bedrock geology of the local area consist of chalk of the either the Holywell Nodular Chalk and New Pit Chalk Formations or of the Grey Chalk subgroup which is partly overlain by a cover sand.

3. Archaeology and historical background

A number of archaeological sites or findspots are recorded on the County Historic Environment Record (HER) within the local area of the proposed site. The locations of these are marked in Figure 1; a summary of the recorded entries is as follows:

HER No.	Date	Nature of Evidence
LKH 009	BA	Pit, diameter 4 feet x 4 feet 6 inches, depth about 2 feet, excavated around 1958 by Grace Briscoe after being discovered by deep ploughing. Pit cuts into yellow sand with fill of black soil with over 200 sherds of "giant" beaker and rusticated ware, charcoal, flint implements including 14 scrapers, animal bone and teeth, possibly used to decorate pottery. At least sixteen pots represented, four rusticated, 3 plain. Cropmark of a ring ditch showing in cereal early 1997 close to site of Briscoe's 1958 pit excavation.
LKH 056	med	Findspot of a Bronze key and two twisted wire bronze bracelets.
LKH 087	med & earlier	Scatter of pottery etc. Probably a Lady G. Briscoe entry (further information in Briscoe archive?) General scatter over field confirmed, apparently multiperiod, flints, pottery, metalwork etc, although no marked concentrations.
LKH 113	Sax	Metal detector find: silver penny of Harthacnut (AD 1040 - 1042; Seaby 685), mint Colchester, moneyer '...wine'.
LKH 176	IA, Rom, med & Pmed	Metal detector finds: very worn, dished, silver coin, comparable to Van Arsdell 1949-1, Cunobeline. Probably Trinovantian (IA); Siliqua of AD 387-388 (Rom); Colchester derivative double pierced lug (Harlow) type brooch (C1 - Rom); another Harlow type brooch from 'Top Field' (Rom). Also a large amount of medieval metalwork including bronze spur and two purse shaped ampullas from 'Top Plot', and a thin scatter of post-medieval material.

LKH 177	Rom, Sax, med & Pmed	Thinnish scatter of Rom metalwork, include 5-6 coins, and 1-2 brooches; an Early Saxon (small-long type?) brooch fragment; a: Late Saxon Winchester style fitting/mount; a large amount of medieval metalwork; and a thinnish scatter of C16-C18 metalwork, plus occasional C20 pieces.
LKH 179	Rom, med & Pmed	Metal detector finds: 2 Roman coins (one Ae 3/4, one Ae4); reasonably large amount of medieval & post-medieval metalwork, mainly(?) Late med and E pmed.
LKH 183	Preh & Rom	Formerly fieldwalked (in 1950s, 1960s?) resulting in lots of arrowheads and other flints and Roman material (in Briscoe archive).
LKH 367	BA, IA, Sax & med	Evaluation trenches dug in 2014 revealed a prehistoric landscape including a Bronze Age ring ditch and inhumation, as well as Mid to Late Bronze Age pottery. Iron Age occupation of the site was also identified, represented by a ring ditch and Iron Age boundary ditch. Background scatter of Saxon and medieval pottery was also found.
LKH Misc 1	med & Pmed	Metal detector finds: Two C18(?) lead tokens & silver farthing of Edward.
LKH Misc 2	med	Bronze harness pendant, rectangular 39mm by 33mm, gilded on front, two scribed bands of rocker decoration, central domed stud.

Table 1. Summary of HER entries

There are a number of entries on the HER within, and in the immediate area of, the evaluation area. The majority relate to metal detector finds that have been recovered across a number of the fields to the north of Station Road and indicate activity during the Iron Age, Roman, Anglo-Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods. These finds include a Late Saxon coin (LKH 113) and a medieval bronze harness pendant (LKH Misc 2), both of which were recovered from within the evaluation area itself.

Much of this body of evidence is likely to be the result of chance losses and material spread by manuring and therefore represents a general background of activity in the local area rather than specific occupation sites.

Other entries in the HER that do suggest actual sites of activity have been recorded during the previous evaluation (Haskins 2014) in the fields to the northwest of the evaluation area. These suggest significant activity during the prehistoric period and include a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age inhumation along with a number of other features that yielded Bronze Age pottery. Additionally, Middle to Late Bronze Age

pottery was recovered from within a natural hollow and an Iron Age ring-ditch, possibly a drip-gully from a structure, and a boundary ditch were also recorded.

The previous trial trenching within the current evaluation area (Haskins 2014) consisted of three trenches, Trenches 24, 25 and 26. Trench 23 was blank, Trench 25 contained two undated ditches whilst Trench 26 contained a single ditch terminal that produced a struck flake.

4. Methodology

The trial trenches were machine excavated down to the level of the natural subsoil using a toothless bucket fitted to a tracked excavator. The trench locations were laid out using a Global Positioning System (DGPS; Leica GPS) with a sub-two centimetre accuracy. This equipment was also used to record the positions and elevation of any features encountered.

The machining of the trenches was closely observed throughout in order to identify any archaeological features and deposits and to recover any artefacts that might be revealed. Excavation continued until undisturbed natural deposits were encountered, the exposed surface of which was then examined for cut features. Any features or significant deposits exposed were then sampled through hand excavation in order to determine their depth and shape and to recover datable artefacts. Resultant sections were recorded in pencil on plastic film at a scale of 1:20; surface plans were also drawn but a scale of 1:50. Individual context numbers were allocated to all observable phenomenon such as the feature cuts and their fills.

A photographic record of the work undertaken was compiled using a 24 megapixel digital camera with suitable scales in place.

Following the excavation of each trench, the nature of the overburden was recorded and the depths noted. Upon completion of the evaluation each trench was backfilled.

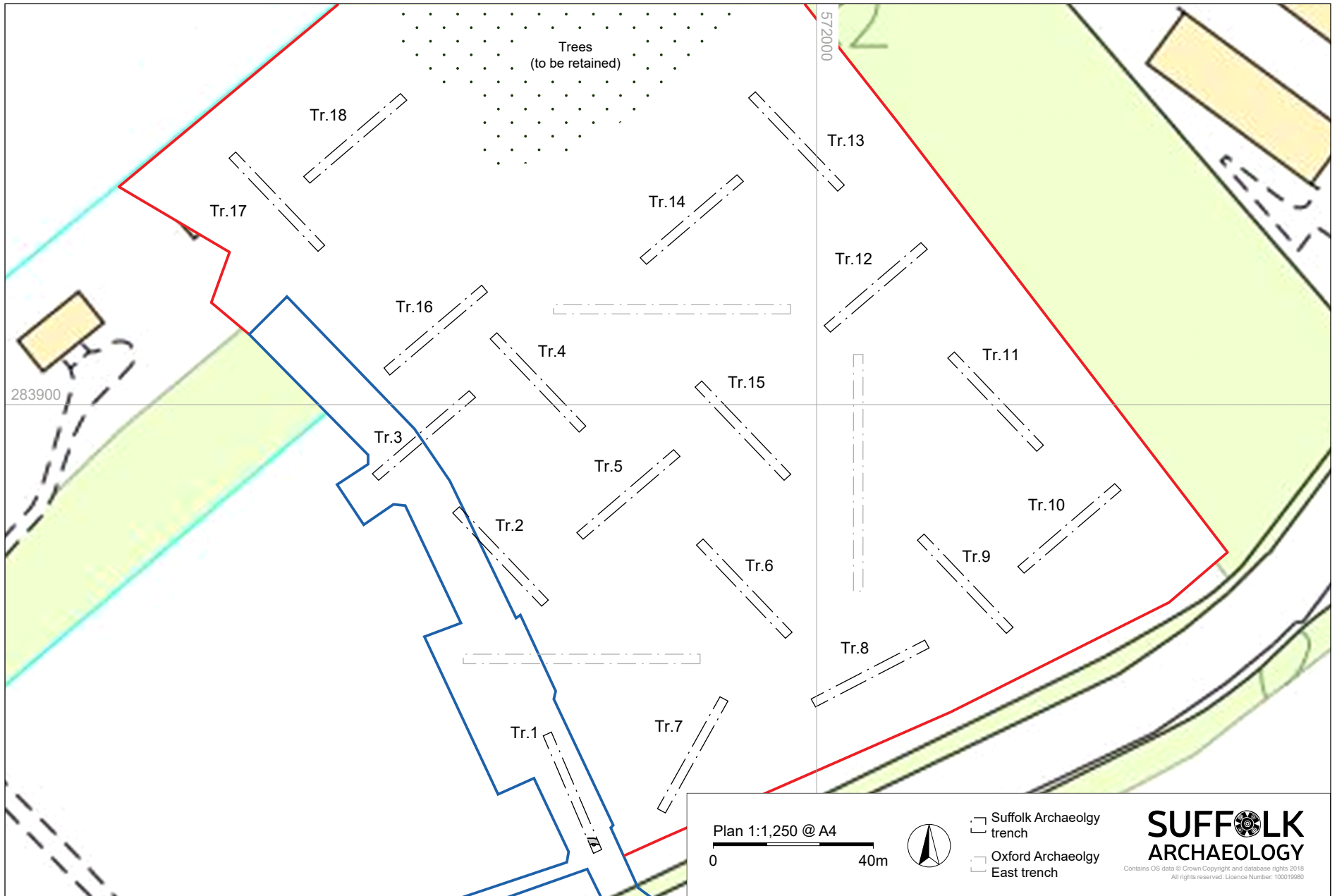


Figure 2. Trench plan

5. Results

Eighteen trenches, each 30m in length, were excavated (Fig. 2). They were positioned in the locations depicted in the WSI, except for Trench 16, which was moved approximately 10m to the southeast to avoid an area of trees.

The trenches revealed a natural subsoil consisting of yellow to orange gravelly sand (Plate 1) or chalk (Plate 2). In the majority of trenches this lay just below the modern topsoil (0001) at a depth of c.0.35m (Plate 3). Evidence for truncation of the surface of the natural subsoil, in the form of plough lines, was present in most trenches. Frequent field drains formed of stone filled slots were also present.

Two trenches varied from these norms, Trench 1 and Trench 11. In Trench 1 the natural subsoil lay at a maximum depth of c.1.2m in the central area of the trench before sloping up to the south and north. It was sealed by a layer of homogenous mid brown sand (0002), which in turn was overlain by the present topsoil (Plate 4). This was interpreted as a natural hollow filled with a naturally occurring colluvium.

In Trench 11 a large disturbance that occupied the southern 20m of the trench was present. It comprised a cut to a depth of c.1.6m filled with mid brown sand and a layer darker sand with some peat at the base (Plate 5). Occasional, but relatively infrequent fragments of 20th century brick and tile were present within the upper fill. This feature was interpreted as a probable gravel extraction pit. The peaty layer suggests it was probably damp at the base.

Archaeological features were identified only in Trench 1 (Fig. 3). They consisted of a probably linear cut interpreted as a ditch (0003) and a smaller cut (0005) interpreted as a probable pit (Plate 6). They are described below:

Ditch 0003 measured c.1.2m in width and cut the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.22m. It had a fill (0004) medium brown sandy silt with occasional stones, chalk fragments and flecks of charcoal. From the trench edge section it could be seen that it was cut through the subsoil layer 0002 giving it a width of 2.4m and a depth of 0.6m. Pieces of modern clinker were recovered from the fill suggesting this feature is post-medieval in date.

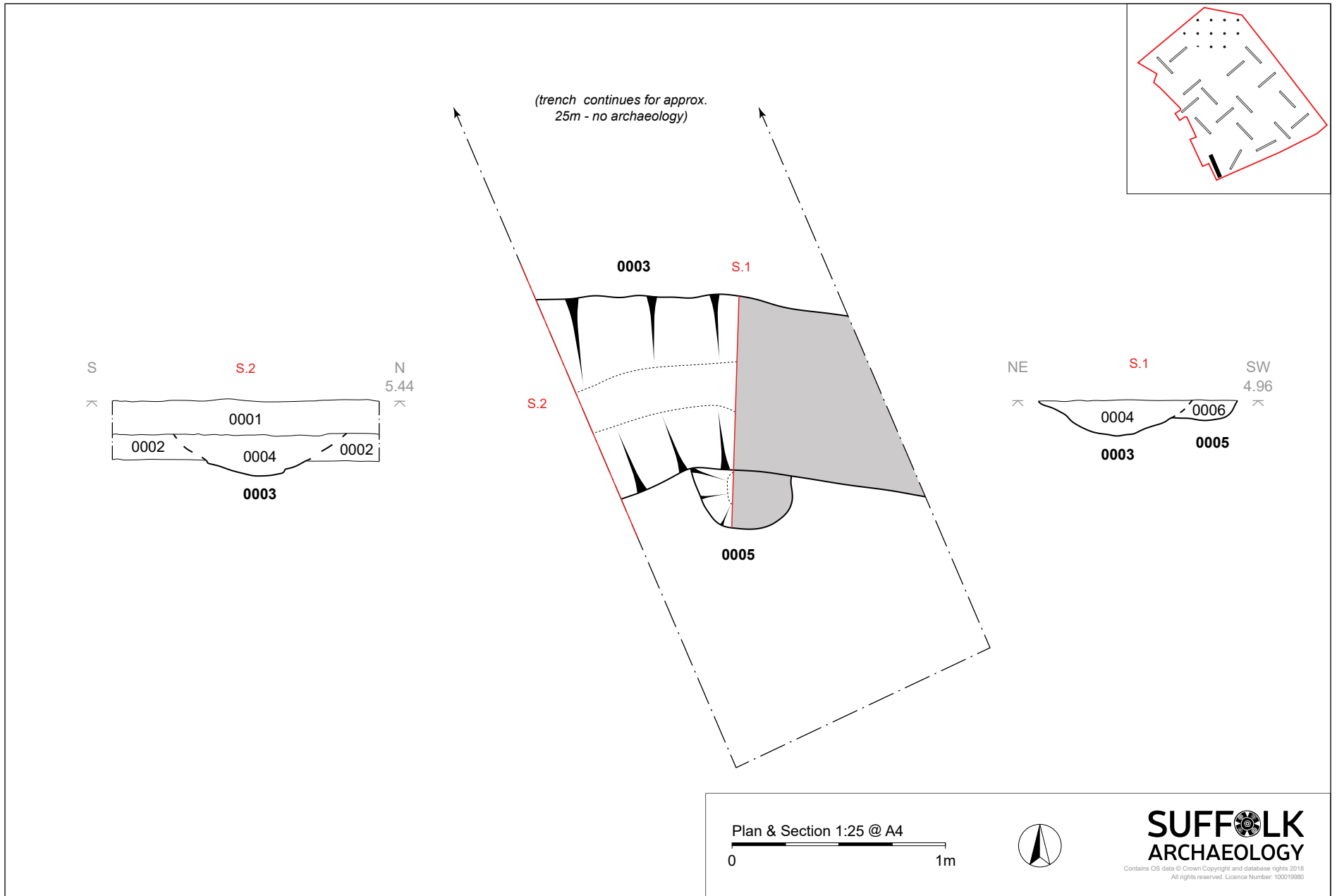


Figure 3. Plan and sections of Trench 1

Pit 0005 comprised a roughly circular cut, c.0.7m in diameter that cut the natural subsoil to a depth of c.0.14m. It contained a single fill (0006) that comprised an orangey-brown sandy silt with occasional stones, chalk and flecks of charcoal. A single sherd of early medieval pottery was recovered from the fill.

The ditch and pit intersected but the sequence of excavation could not be determined.

6. Finds and environmental evidence

Richenda Goffin

A single sherd of pottery was recovered from pit 0005 (fill 0006). It is an abraded body sherd of an Early medieval ware weighing 7g, dating to the 11th-12th century.

7. Discussion

The results suggest that no significant archaeological features or deposits are present within the areas evaluated. The ditch (0003) is probably post-medieval in date and dug to mark a boundary. It is not marked on the 19th century Ordnance Survey maps of the area suggesting it is potentially earlier. However, no ditches in this area were detected by the geophysics survey undertaken as part of the previous evaluation, which could indicate that its interpretation as a ditch is incorrect and that it is in fact an elongated pit.

Three features interpreted as ditches were recorded in the previous evaluation (Haskins 2014) and although the predicted alignments of these should have crossed the recently excavated evaluation trenches they were not identified. This could suggest that these features are also elongated pits rather than ditches.

The feature (0005) has been interpreted as a small pit. Although it could potentially have been excavated to hold a post there was no evidence of a post setting within the fill. The single sherd of medieval pottery suggests it may date from that period but there is the possibility that this is a residual find and that the pit, like the adjacent ditch (0003), is also post-medieval in date. The previous evaluation and the HER does record low-level scatters of medieval material that probably results from manuring of the fields with waste material from a nearby settlement within which artefacts had become mixed.

8. Conclusions

The evaluation area was, on the whole, devoid of any archaeological features. The two features that were recorded are likely to be post-medieval and of limited archaeological significance. No evidence suggesting the presence of any of the early settlement sites were recorded.

9. Archive deposition

Paper, digital and photographic archive will be sent to the County HER, ref. LKH 411. The project has also been entered onto OASIS, the online archaeological database, ref. suffolka1-315417. For a copy of the entry see Appendix 2.

10. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by Joy Fuller, Romy McIntosh, John Phillips and Mark Sommers. Project management was undertaken by John Craven who also provided advice during the production of the report and undertook the final editing. The illustrations were by Rui Santo and the finds identification was by Richenda Goffin.

11. Bibliography

Haskins, A., 2014, *Land at Rabbithill Covert, Lakenheath, Suffolk. OA East Report No. 1621.*

Plates



Plate 1. Sample view of the natural subsoil (as seen in Trench 3)



Plate 2. Sample view of the natural subsoil (as seen in Trench 9)



Plate 3. Sample view of the overburden (as seen in Trench 3)



Plate 4. Overburden as seen in Trench 1



Plate 5. Probable gravel extraction pit, Trench 11



Plate 6. Ditch 0003 and Pit 0005, Trench 1

Appendix 1. Written Scheme of Investigation



New School

Land North of Station Road, Lakenheath, Suffolk

Client:

Concertus Design & Property Consultants Ltd

Date:

April 2018

LKH 411

Written Scheme of Investigation

Archaeological Evaluation

Author: John Craven

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Project details

Location	Site Name Parish, County Grid Reference	New School, Land North of Station Road Lakenheath, Suffolk TL 71998391
Site details	Project type Size of Area	Evaluation c.3.4ha
Staffing	No. of personnel (SACIC) No. of subcontractor personnel	4 1
Project dates	Start date Fieldwork duration	Proposed 14 th May 2018 c. 4days
Reference codes	HER Site Code OASIS No. Planning Application No. SACIC Jobcode	LKH 411 315417 DC/18/0644/CR3 and DC/18/0246/FUL LKHNSC001
Key persons	Project Manager Project Officer	John Craven TBC

Project Contacts

SACIC	Managing Director	Dr Rhodri Gardner	01449 900120
	SACIC Project Manager	John Craven	01449 900121
	SACIC Finds Dept	Richenda Goffin	01449 900129
	SACIC H&S	John Craven	01449 900121
	SACIC EMS	Jezz Meredith	01449 900124
	SACIC Outreach Officer	Alex Fisher	01449 900126
Client	Client		
	Client Agent	Concertus (Linda Wilson)	01473 316545
	Landowner/Tenant		
Archaeological	Curatorial Officer	Rachael Abraham	01284 741232
	Consultant EH Regional Science Advisor	Dr Zoe Outram	01223 582707

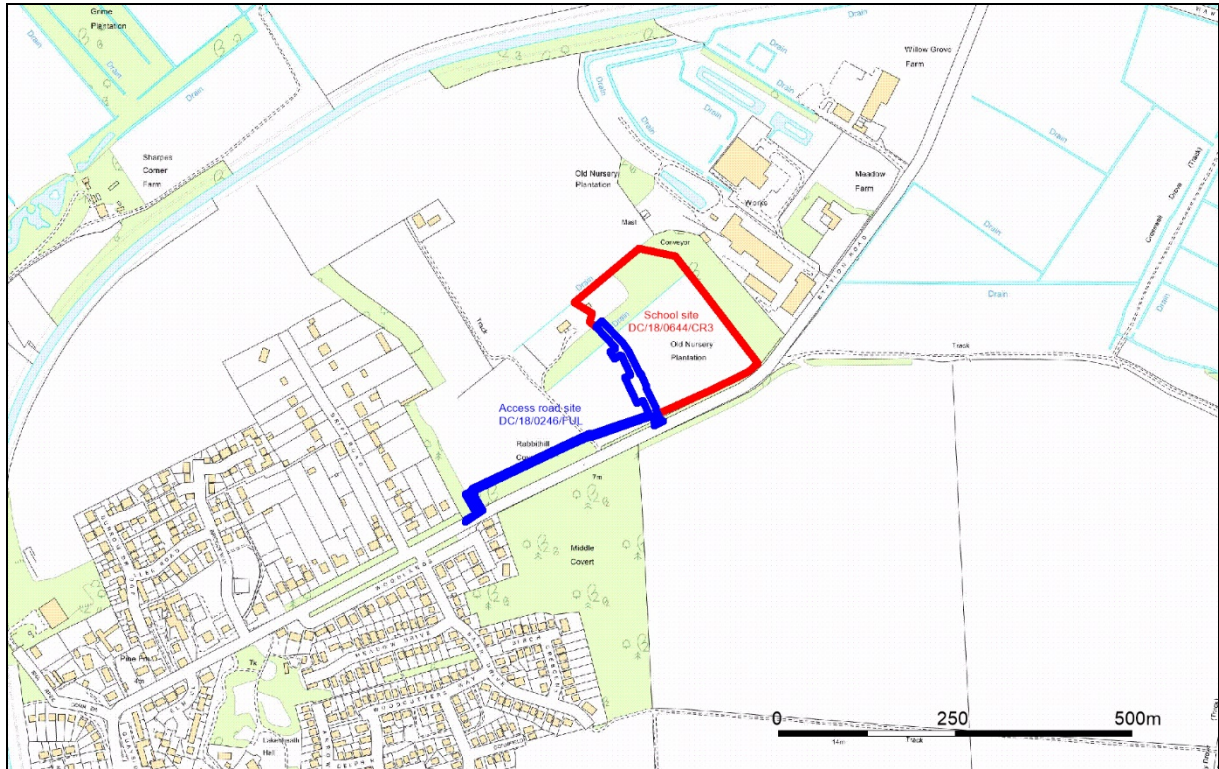
1. Introduction

- A program of archaeological evaluation is required to assess for heritage assets the site of two planning applications associated with a new school development (DC/18/0644/CR3) and access road (DC/18/0246/FUL) on land north of Station Road, Lakenheath, Suffolk (Fig. 1), in accordance with paragraphs 128 and 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework. The work required is detailed in a Brief (dated 12/01/2018, Appendix 1), first issued in relation to application DC/18/0644/CR3, by the archaeological adviser to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), Rachael Abraham of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS). Following discussion with SCCAS it has been agreed that the smaller access road site can be included under the same Brief.
- The combined site has, as a part of investigations into a larger land parcel extending north and west, previously been the subject of a desk-based assessment (DBA), geophysical survey and low density trial trench evaluation (see section 3 below). This new project will complete the assessment of the site by increasing the density of trial trenching to the required standard.
- Suffolk Archaeology (SACIC) has been contracted to carry out the combined project. This document details how the requirements of the Brief and general SCCAS guidelines (SCCAS 2017) will be met, and has been submitted to SCCAS for approval prior to submission to the LPA. It provides the basis for measurable standards and will be adhered to in full, unless otherwise agreed with SCCAS.
- It should be noted that the evaluation is only a first stage in a potential program of works and that this Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) covers this trenched evaluation only. Following completion of the evaluation the decision as to whether any further archaeological work will be required in relation to the proposed development will be made by SCCAS and the LPA. Any further stages of work will be specified by SCCAS and will require new documentation (Brief, WSI, RAMS etc) and a new estimate of costs. Such works could have considerable time and cost implications for the development and the client is advised to consult with SCCAS as to their obligations following receipt of the evaluation report.
- This archaeological WSI is accompanied by a separate Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) document which details how the fieldwork project will be carried out and addresses health and safety issues.

2. The Site

2.1. Location

- The site is located on the northern edge of Lakenheath, to the north of Station Road and 300m south of the modern 'cut-off' channel which here forms the edge of the fen edge. Arable farmland and/or woodland lies to the north, west and south while to the east lies a rural industrial unit.



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Figure 1. Site location plan

2.2. Current land-use

- The site consists of two distinct areas. The southern and central parts lie within a single arable field. The northern part consists of a belt of scrub grass and woodland, in part occupied by structures and allotments of a small-holding.

2.3. Topography and geology

- The site lies at a height of c.5m above Ordnance Datum and is broadly flat but lies on a very slight localised south facing slope which rises to the north to a slight natural ridge along the southern side of the 'cut-off' channel, which together mark the fen edge.
- The site geology consists of superficial deposits of Cover Sand overlying bedrock of Holywell Nodular Chalk formation to the northeast and Grey Chalk to the southwest (British Geological Survey website).

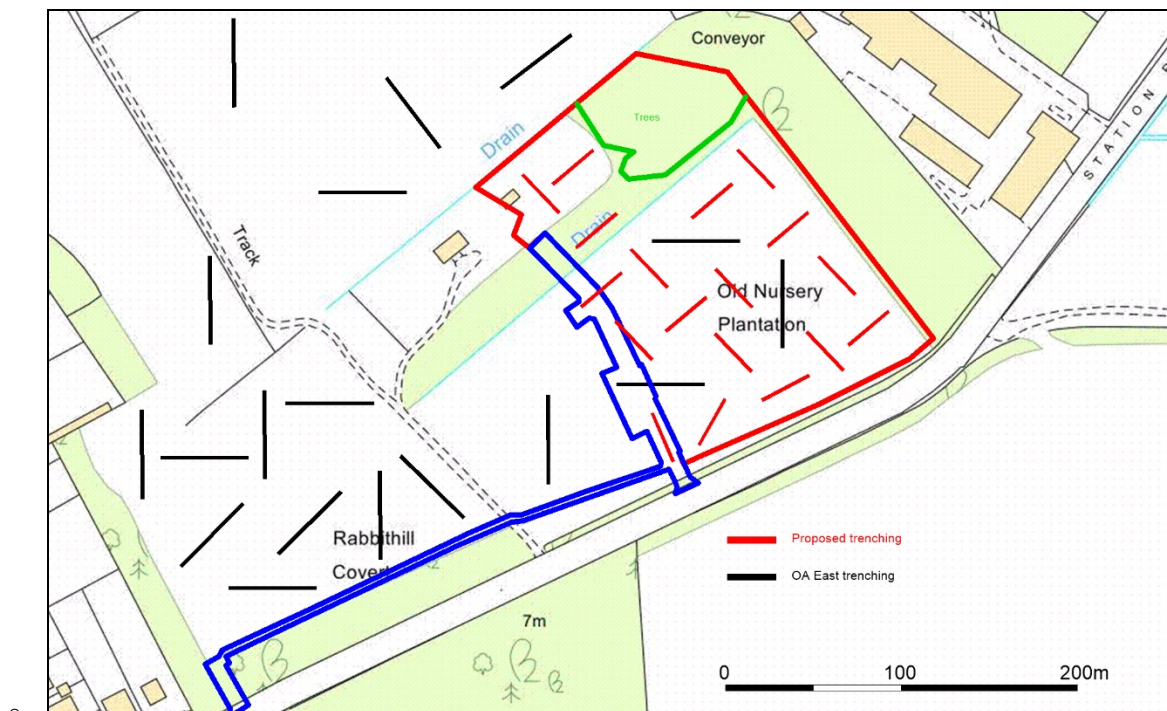
3. Archaeological and historical background

- The site lies in an area of very high archaeological potential, within the known dense band of prehistoric and Roman activity that exists along the edge of the fens, as recorded in the County Historic Environment Record (HER).
- The archaeological and historical background of the site has previously been described in the assessment reports for a broader land parcel at Rabbit Hill Covert, in which the school site occupies the southeast part. The findings of an initial desk-based assessment that examined a 1km radius study area, was in turn summarised in the initial evaluation report by Oxford Archaeology East (Haskins 2014). These reports detail the evidence in the Study Area for extensive settlement, agricultural and funerary deposits from the Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and Anglo-Saxon periods. Of particular note was a ring ditch cropmark (LKH 009) that lies immediately to the north of the school site, and a coin of Harthacnut, King of England 1040-1042 (LKH 113) found within the school site itself.
- A magnetometer geophysical survey of the larger site (included in Haskins 2014), which was carried out prior to the first stage of evaluation trenching, did not identify any anomalies of note within the school site, other than an area of increased magnetic activity thought to represent natural outcrops of gravel soil. In the fields to the northeast several potential archaeological anomalies were identified, including three potential ring ditches.
- The subsequent low density trial trench evaluation demonstrated that most of the anomalies identified in the geophysical survey were the result of geology or modern disturbance. One of the ring ditches to the north of the school site was proven to be a Bronze Age barrow with central burial and it was suggested that this may be linked to the LKH 009 HER entry. Other evidence for past activity, including a possible Palaeolithic flake, Mesolithic or Early Neolithic cores, small quantities of Middle to Late Bronze Age pottery recovered from natural features, Iron Age features including a possible ring gully that may relate to a round house or similar structure and a small number of medieval or post-medieval pits, largely lay in the northern part of the evaluation area. Trenching in the school site and the field to the west were largely devoid of archaeological deposits.
- An updated search of the Suffolk HER has been commissioned and results will be used to inform fieldwork and the evaluation report.

4. Project Objectives

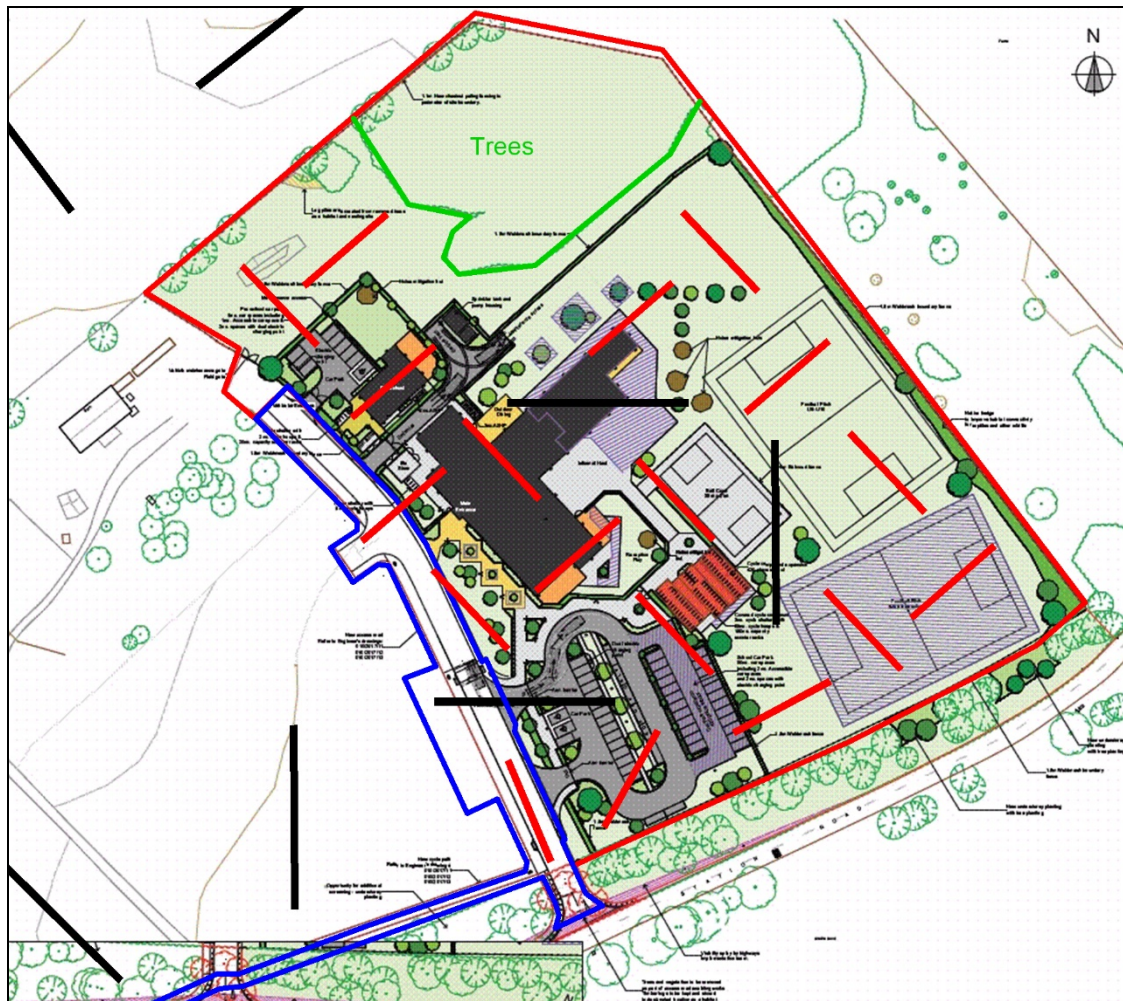
- The aim of the evaluation is to accurately quantify the quality and extent of the sites archaeological resource so that an assessment of the developments impact upon heritage assets can be made.
- The evaluation will:
 - 'Ground truth' the results of the geophysical survey.

- Establish whether any archaeological deposits exist in the application area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.
- Identify the date, approximate form and function of any archaeological deposits within the application area.
- Establish the extent, depth and quality of preservation of any archaeological deposits within the application area.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses and whether masking alluvial or colluvial deposits are present.
- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- Assess the potential of the site to address research aims defined in the Regional Research Framework for the Eastern Counties (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott 2011).
- Provide sufficient information for SCCAS to construct an archaeological conservation strategy dealing with preservation or the further recording of archaeological deposits.
- Provide sufficient information for the client to establish time and cost implications for the development regarding the application areas heritage assets.



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Figure 2. Proposed trench plan



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Figure 3. Proposed trench plan in relation to development plan

5. Archaeological method statement

5.1. Management

- The project will be managed by SACIC Project Manager John Craven in accordance with the following local, regional and national standards and guidance:
 - *Management of Research in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE, Historic England 2015).
 - *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (EAA Occasional Papers 14).
 - *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014).
 - *Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* (SCCAS, 2017a).
- SCCAS will be given ten days notice of the commencement of the fieldwork and arrangements made for SCCAS visits to enable the works to be monitored effectively.
- Full details of project staff, including sub-contractors and specialists are given in section 6 below.

5.2. Project preparation

- A site code has been requested from the Suffolk HER Officer and will be included on all future project documentation.
- An OASIS online record has been initiated and key fields in details, location and creator forms have been completed.
- An HER search has been requested from the Suffolk HER Officer and will be used to inform fieldwork and the subsequent report. The reference number will be included in the report.
- A pre-site inspection and RAMS document for the project will be completed prior to commencement.

5.3. Fieldwork

- The archaeological fieldwork will be carried out by members of SACIC led by a Project Officer. The fieldwork team will be drawn from a pool of suitable full-time professional staff at SACIC and will include an experienced metal detectorist/excavator.
- The project Brief requires an additional 540m of 1.8m wide trenching to be placed across the c.3.1ha application area, to sample all areas of the site at an overall level of c.4%. As the northern 0.45ha is unavailable due to tree cover and is to be left untouched by development, a total of 80m of trenching has been deducted from the school site. However due to the inclusion of the access road and cycle path, an area of c.0.35ha, a further 80m of trenching has been re-added to form a combined trench plan (18 x 30m trenches) across both areas (Figs. 2 and 3). Due to the increased density of previous trenching in the field to the west and a lack of positive results, plus the minor nature of development, no further trenching is placed along the cycle path route.
- Contingency provision has been made for the excavation of a further 170m of trenching, as required by the Brief, should archaeological deposits require further clarification in order to guide mitigation strategies.
- If necessary minor modifications to the trench plan may be made onsite to respect any previously unknown buried services, areas of disturbance, contamination or other obstacles.
- The trench locations will be marked out using an RTK GPS system.
- The trenches will be excavated using a machine equipped with a back-acting arm and toothless ditching bucket (measuring at least 1.5m wide), under the supervision of an archaeologist. All overburden (topsoil and subsoil) will be removed stratigraphically until either the first archaeological horizon or natural deposits are encountered. Trenches are likely to range from 0.4m to 1m deep.
- If a trench requires access by staff for hand excavation and recording, it will not exceed a depth of 1.2m. If the trench depth is not sufficient to meet the archaeological requirements of the Brief it will be brought to the attention of SCCAS so that further requirements can be established. Deeper excavation can be undertaken, where practicable, provided the trench sides are stepped or

battered and/or suitable trench support is used. However, such a variation will incur further costs to the client and time must be allowed for this to be established and agreed.

- Spoilheaps will be created adjacent to each trench and topsoil and subsoil will be kept separate if required. Spoilheaps will be examined and metal-detected for archaeological material.
- The trench sides, base and archaeological surfaces will be cleaned by hand as necessary to identify archaeological deposits and artefacts and allow decisions to be made on the method of further investigation by the Project Officer. Further use of the machine, i.e. to investigate thick sequences of deposits by excavation of test pits etc, may be undertaken as necessary after consultation with SCCAS.
- There will be a presumption that a minimum of disturbance will be caused whilst achieving adequate evaluation of the site, i.e. establishing the period, depth and nature of archaeological deposits. Typically 50% of discrete features such as pits and 1m slots across linear features will be sampled by hand excavation, although in some instances 100% may be removed, with the aim of establishing date and function. All identified features will be investigated by excavation unless otherwise agreed with SCCAS. Significant archaeological features such as solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or postholes will be preserved intact if possible.
- Sieving of deposits using a 10mm mesh will be undertaken if they clearly appear to be occupation deposits or structurally related. Other deposits may be sieved at the judgement of the excavation team or if directed by SCCAS.
- Any fabricated surface (floors, yards etc) will be fully exposed and cleaned.
- Metal detector searches (non-discriminating against iron) will take place throughout the project, both prior to and during machine excavation, and the subsequent hand-excavation phase, by an experienced SACIC metal-detectorist.
- The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits across the site will be recorded.
- An overall site plan showing trench locations, feature positions, sections and levels will be made using an RTK GPS or Total Station Theodolite. Individual detailed trench or feature plans etc will be recorded by hand at 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate to complexity. All excavated sections will be recorded at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20, also as appropriate to complexity. All such drawings will be in pencil on A3 pro forma gridded permatrace sheets. All levels will refer to Ordnance Datum. Section and plan drawing registers will be maintained.
- All trenches, archaeological features and deposits will be recorded using standard pro forma SACIC registers and recording sheets and numbering systems. Record keeping will be consistent with the requirements of the Suffolk HER and will be compatible with its archive.
- A photographic record, consisting of high resolution digital images will be made throughout the evaluation. A number board displaying site code and, if appropriate, context number and a metric scale will be clearly visible in all photographs. A photographic register will be maintained.
- All pre-modern finds will be kept and no discard policy will be considered until all the finds have

been processed and assessed. Finds on site will be treated following appropriate guidelines (Watkinson & Neal 2001) and a conservator will be available for on-site consultation as required.

- All finds will be brought back to the SACIC finds department at the end of each day for processing, quantifying, packing and, where necessary, preliminary conservation. Finds will be processed and receive an initial assessment during the fieldwork phase and this information will be fed back to site to inform the on-site evaluation methodology.
- Environmental sampling of archaeological contexts will, where possible, be carried out to assess the site for palaeoenvironmental remains and will follow appropriate guidance (Campbell *et al* 2011). In order to obtain palaeoenvironmental evidence, bulk soil samples (of at least 40 litres each, or 100% of the context) will be taken using a combination of judgement and systematic sampling from selected archaeological features or natural environmental deposits, particularly those which are both datable and interpretable. All environmental samples will be retained until an appropriate specialist has assessed their potential for palaeoenvironmental remains. Decisions will be made on the need for further analysis following these assessments.
- If necessary, for example if waterlogged peat deposits are encountered, then advice will be sought from the Historic England Science Advisor for the East of England on the need for specialist environmental techniques such as coring or column sampling.
- If human remains are encountered guidelines from the Ministry of Justice will be followed and the Coroner and SCCAS informed. Human remains will be treated at all stages with care and respect, and will be dealt with in accordance with the law and the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857. SCCAS will be consulted to determine the subsequent work required but it is expected that 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.
- If human remains are to be lifted, for instance if analysis is required to fully evaluate the site, then a Ministry of Justice license for their removal will be obtained in advance. In such cases appropriate guidance, such as McKinley & Roberts 1993, Brickley & McKinley 2004 etc. will be consulted. On completion of full recording and analysis, the remains, where appropriate, will be reburied or kept as part of the project archive. At the conclusion of the work backfilling will be carried out in a manner sensitive to the preservation of such remains.
- In the event of unexpected or significant deposits being encountered on site, the client and SCCAS will be informed. Such circumstances may necessitate changes to the Brief and hence evaluation methodology, in which case a new archaeological quotation will have to be agreed with the client, to allow for the recording of said unexpected deposits. If an evaluation is aborted, i.e. because unexpected deposits have made development unviable, then all exposed archaeological features will be recorded as usual prior to backfilling and a report produced.
- Trenches will not be backfilled without the prior approval of SCCAS. Trenches will be backfilled, subsoil first then topsoil, and compacted to ground-level, unless otherwise specified by the client. Original ground surfaces will not be reinstated but will be left as neat as practicable.

5.4. Post-excavation

- The post-excavation finds work will be managed by the SACIC Finds Team Manager, Richenda Goffin, with the overall post-excavation managed by John Craven. Specialist finds staff, whether internal SACIC personnel or external specialists, are experienced in local and regional types and periods for their field.
- All finds will be processed and marked (HER site code and context number) following ICON guidelines and the requirements of the Suffolk HER. For the duration of the project all finds will be stored according to their material requirements in the SACIC store at Needham Market, Suffolk. Metal finds will be stored in accordance with ICON guidelines, *initially recorded and assessed for significance* before dispatch to a conservation laboratory within 4 weeks of the end of the evaluation. All pre-modern silver, copper alloy and ferrous metal artefacts 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.
- All on-site derived site data will be entered onto a digital (Microsoft Access) SACIC database.
- Bulk finds will be fully quantified and the subsequent data will be added to the digital site database. Finds quantification will fully cover weights and numbers of finds by context and will include a clear statement for specialists on the degree of apparent residuality observed.
- Assessment reports for all categories of collected bulk finds will be prepared in-house or commissioned as necessary and will meet appropriate regional or national standards. Specialist reports will include sufficient detail and tabulation by context of data to allow assessment of potential for analysis and will include non-technical summaries.
- Representative portions of bulk soil samples from archaeological features will be processed by wet sieving and flotation in-house in order to recover any environmental material which will be assessed by external specialists. The assessment will include a clear statement of potential for further analysis either on the remaining sample material or in future fieldwork.
- All hand drawn site plans and sections will be scanned.
- All raw data from GPS or TST surveys will be uploaded to the project folder, suitably labelled and kept as part of the project archive.
- Selected plan drawings will then be digitised as appropriate for combination with the results of digital site survey to produce a full site plan, compatible with MapInfo GIS software.
- All hand-drawn sections will be digitised using autocad software.

5.5. Report

- A full written report on the fieldwork will be produced, consistent with the principles of MoRPHE (Historic England 2015), to a scale commensurate with the archaeological results. The report will

contain a description of the project background, location plans, evaluation methodology, a period by period description of results, finds assessments and a full inventory of finds and contexts. The report will also include scale plans, sections drawings, illustrations and photographic plates as required.

- The objective account of the archaeological evidence will be clearly separated from an interpretation of the results, which will include a discussion of the results in relation to relevant known sites in the region that are recorded in the Suffolk HER and other readily available documentary or cartographic sources.
- The report will include a statement as to the value, significance and potential of the site and its significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework for the East of England (Brown and Glazebrook, 2000, Medlycott 2011). This will include an assessment of potential research aims that could be addressed by the site evidence.
- The report will contain sufficient information to stand as an archive report should further work not be required.
- 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.
- A copy of this Written Scheme of investigation will be included as an appendix in the report.
- The report will include a copy of the completed project OASIS form as an appendix.
- An unbound draft copy of the report will be submitted to SCCAS for approval within 4 weeks of completion of fieldwork.
- On approval of the report a printed and bound hard copy, and a digital .pdf file, will be lodged with SCCAS for submission to the Suffolk HER, together with a digital and fully georeferenced vector plan showing the application area and trench locations, compatible with MapInfo software.
- 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 to the client on request.
- A digital .pdf copy of the approved report will be supplied to the Historic England Science Advisor if it contains the results of palaeoenvironmental investigation, industrial residue assessments or other scientific analyses.

5.6. Project 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.
- An unbound copy of the report will be included with the project archive.
- The project archive, consisting of the complete artefactual assemblage, and all paper and digital records, will be held in the SACIC Archaeological Store at Needham Market, Suffolk, until

deposition, within 6 months of completion of fieldwork, with the SCCAS Archaeological Store within 6 months of completion of fieldwork. If SACIC is engaged to carry out any subsequent stages of fieldwork then deposition of the evaluation archive may be delayed until the full archive is completed. The project archive will be consistent with MoRPHE (Historic England 2015) and ICON guidelines. The project archive will also meet the requirements of SCCAS (SCCAS 2017b).

- The project costing includes a sum to meet SCCAS archive charges. A form transferring ownership of the finds archive to SCCAS will be completed on the client/landowners behalf by SACIC and will be included in the project archive.
- The client and/or landowner will have the opportunity to request retention of part/all of the material finds archive prior to deposition. In such circumstances they will be expected to either nominate another suitable depository approved by SCCAS or provide as necessary for additional recording of the finds archive (such as photography and illustration) and analysis.
- Exceptions from the deposition of the archive described above include:
 - Objects that qualify as Treasure, as detailed by the Treasure Act 1996.
 - The client (and landowner if different) will be informed as soon as any such objects are discovered/identified and the find will be reported to the Coroner within 14 days of discovery or identification. NCHES, the British Museum and the local Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) Finds Liaison Officer will subsequently be informed of the find.
 - Treasure objects will immediately be moved to secure storage at SACIC and appropriate security measures will be taken on site if required.
 - Upon discovery of potential treasure the landowner will be asked if they wish to waive or claim their right to a treasure reward, which is 50% of the market value. Employees of SACIC, or volunteers etc. present on site, will not be eligible for any share of a treasure reward.
 - If the landowner waives their share the British Museum and Coroner will be informed and the object returned to the project archive for deposition in an appropriate repository. If the landowner wishes to claim an inquest will be held and, once officially declared as Treasure and valued, the item will if not acquired by a museum, be returned to SACIC and the project archive.
 - Human skeletal remains. The client/landowner by law will have no claim to ownership of human remains and any such will be stored by SACIC, in accordance with a Ministry of Justice licence, until a decision is reached upon their long term future, i.e. reburial or permanent storage.
- SACIC will retain copyright of all documentation and records but a form granting SCCAS a perpetual, royalty free, licence will be included in the archive.

6. Project Staffing

6.1. In-house staff

A summary of key project staff is presented below. Short CV's of key staff are available on request. The project will be managed by John Craven. The fieldwork team will be led by one of the listed Project Officers who will also produce the subsequent site report. The post-excavation finds analysis will be managed by Richenda Goffin and members of the SACIC post-excavation team will contribute to finds analysis, report production and archive preparation, and supervise junior staff as required.

Department	Role	Name	CifA level
Management	Managing Director	Dr Rhodri Gardner	MCifA
	Project Manager	John Craven	MCifA
	Finds Manager	Richenda Goffin	MCifA
	Senior Project Officer	Jo Caruth	MCifA
	Senior Project Officer	Stuart Boulter	MCifA
Fieldwork	Preston Boyles	Project Officer	PCifA
	Rob Brooks	Project Officer	MCifA
	Simon Cass	Project Officer	
	Martin Cuthbert	Project Officer	ACifA
	Linzi Everett	Project Officer	
	Michael Green	Project Officer	ACifA
	Jezz Meredith	Project Officer	MCifA
	Mark Sommers	Project Officer	
Post-excavation	Ryan Wilson	Graphics Officer	
	Dr Ioannis Smyrniotis	Finds Officer	ACifA
	Dr Ruth Beveridge	Finds Officer	
	Anna West	Environmental Officer	
Outreach	Alex Fisher	Outreach Officer	PCifA

6.2. External specialists

SACIC also uses a range of external consultants for post-excavation analysis who will be sub-contracted as required. The most commonly used of these are listed below, further details are available on request.

Sue Anderson	Human skeletal remains	Freelance
Sarah Bates	Lithics	Freelance
Julie Curl	Animal bone	Freelance
Anna Doherty	Prehistoric pottery	Archaeology South-East
Kristina Krawiec	Palaeoenvironmental analysis and dating	Archaeology South-East
SUERC	Radiocarbon dating	Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre
Donna Wreathall	Illustration	SCCAS

7. Bibliography

- Brickley, M., and McKinley, J. I., 2004, *Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains*. IFA Professional Practice Paper No 7.
- 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.
- Campbell, G, Moffett, L and Straker V., 2011, *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (second edition)*. Portsmouth: English Heritage.
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014, *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*.
- Haskins, A., 2014, *Land at Rabbithill Covert, Lakenheath, Suffolk. OA East Report No. 1621*.
- Historic England, 2015, *Management of Research in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*.
- Gurney, D., 2003, *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper No 14.
- McKinley, J., I and Roberts, C., 1993, *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains*. IFA Technical Paper No 13.
- Medlycott, M. (Ed), 2011, *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A revised framework for the East of England*. EAA Occasional Paper 24.
- SCCAS, 2017a, *Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation (updated March 2017)*.
- SCCAS, 2017b, *Archaeological Archives in Suffolk. Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition*.
- Watkinson, D. and Neal, V., 2001, *First Aid for Finds*. Third Edition, revised. Rescue/UKIC Archaeology Section, London.

Websites

British Geological Survey

<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

Appendix 2. Context list

Context Number	Feature Number	Trench	Feature Type	Description <i>Interpretation</i>	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts
0001	0001		Topsoil	Topsoil, all trenches. <i>Topsoil.</i>				
0002	0002		Subsoil	Subsoil <i>Subsoil.</i>	0012			
0003	0003	1	Ditch Cut	Linear feature cut. 1.2m in width and 0.22m deep. Sloping sides down to a flat base. <i>Probable ditch.</i>		0001		0002
0004	0003	1	Ditch Fill	Single fill within cut 0003. Consists of medium brown sandy silt with occasional stones, chalk fragments and flecks of charcoal. <i>Ditch fill.</i>				
0005	0005	1	Pit Cut	roughly circular cut, c.0.7m in diameter that cut the natural subsoil to a depth of c.0.14m. <i>Pit or possible posthole.</i>		0001, ?0002		
0006	0005	1	Pit Fill	single fill of an orangey-brown sandy silt with occasional stones, chalk and flecks of charcoal. <i>Fill of pit/posthole although no evidence of a post setting visible.</i>				

Appendix 3. OASIS data collection form

OASIS ID: suffolka1-315417	
Project details	
Project name	New School, Land North of Station Road
Short description of the project	Trenched evaluation revealed a single ditch and a small pit. A single sherd of early medieval pottery was recovered from the pit but this is probably residual and both features are likely to be post-med in date.
Project dates	Start: 14-05-2018 End: 06-06-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	LKH 411 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Public building (e.g. school, church, hospital, medical centre, law courts etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK FOREST HEATH LAKENHEATH New School, Land North of Station Road
Study area	3.2 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 7196 8390 52.425577994947 0.529368902786 52 25 32 N 000 31 45 E Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Suffolk Archaeology CIC
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Suffolk Archaeology CIC
Project director/manager	John Craven
Project supervisor	Mark Sommers
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client

Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Physical Archive ID	LKH411
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Digital Archive ID	LKH411
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Paper Archive ID	LKH411
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Report","Section"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation Report: New School at Land North of Station Road, Lakenheath, Suffolk
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Sommers, M.
Other bibliographic details	SACIC Report No. 2018/053
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	SACIC
Place of issue or publication	Needham Market
Description	printed sheets of A4 paper
Entered by	ms (mark.sommers@suffolkarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	6 June 2018

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