



## Proposed Reservoir Queech Farm Stutton, Suffolk

**Client:**

Mr Andrew Hawes

**Date:**

June 2018

STU 093  
Archaeological Evaluation Report  
SACIC Report No. 2018/058  
Author: Jezz Meredith  
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Proposed Reservoir, Queech Farm,  
Stutton, Suffolk  
STU 093

Archaeological Evaluation Report

SACIC Report No. 2018/058

Author: Jezz Meredith

Contributions By: Ioannis Smyrnaio

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Editor: Rhodri Gardner

Report Date: June 2018

## HER Information

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**Site Code:** STU 093  
**Site Name:** Queech Farm, Stutton  
**Report Number** 2018/058  
**Planning Application No:** DC/18/01072  
**Date of Fieldwork:** 29th-31st May 2018  
**Grid Reference:** TM 1356 3342  
**Oasis Reference:** suffolka1-318924  
**Curatorial Officer:** Rachael Abraham  
**Project Officer:** Jezz Meredith  
**Client/Funding Body:** Andrew Hawes  
**Client Reference:** n/a

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: Jezz Meredith  
Date: 22nd June 2018  
Approved By: Rhodri Gardner  
Position: Managing Director  
Date: 22nd June 2018  
Signed:

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## Summary

The site is located in a prominent area, overlooking the River Stour to the south, within a rich archaeological landscape. The site had previously been investigated by a geophysical survey so the twenty trenches of the evaluation targeted some of the anomalies identified in the survey while other trenches were placed on a formal grid across the rest of the area. The trenches were positioned within the cut area for the proposed farm reservoir. A number of modern field drains were recorded and these were likely to correspond to some of the geophysics anomalies recorded.










Linear ditches were encountered in two of the trenches towards the northern edge of the evaluated area. One of the ditches was associated with a small amount of Roman pottery. Small pieces of probable prehistoric pottery and two pieces of struck flint from the same ditch are likely to be earlier, residual finds. Small quantities of unstratified pottery from other trenches was dated to the later prehistoric, Late Iron Age/Roman transition and Roman periods.





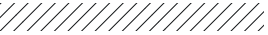





Plate 1. View from Trench 6 looking south towards the River Stour

**Drawing Conventions**

Plans

- Limit of Excavation 
- Features 
- Break of Slope 
- Features - Conjectured 
- Natural Features 
- Sondages/Machine Strip 
- Intrusion/Truncation 
- Illustrated Section  S.14
- Cut Number **0008**
- Archaeological Feature 

Sections

- Limit of Excavation 
- Cut 
- Modern Cut 
- Cut - Uncertain 
- Deposit Horizon 
- Deposit Horizon - Uncertain 
- Intrusion/Truncation 
- Break in Section 
- Cut Number **0088**
- Deposit Number 0089
- Ordnance Datum 

S	N
55.27	
⋈	⋈



# 1. Introduction

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The proposed reservoir area (hereafter referred to as 'the site') is within an arable field overlooking the River Stour to the south. Suffolk Archaeology CIC were commissioned to conduct a geophysical survey of the proposed reservoir site (Schofield 2018) and the subsequent trial-trenched evaluation (which is dealt with in this report) was conducted in response to the geophysical survey. The site evaluated is somewhat smaller than the area surveyed by geophysics and represents the cut area for the proposed reservoir (Fig. 1; grid reference TM 1356 3342).

A 'Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation' produced by the Suffolk County Council planning archaeologist Rachael Abraham proposed that the site be investigated for its archaeological potential as a condition of planning consent (planning reference DC/18/01072). The brief asked for a 4% sample by trial trenching to test for surviving archaeological deposits.

A 'Written Scheme of Investigation and Risk Assessment' produced by Stuart Boulter (Appendix 1) specified how the trenches would be positioned. In total twenty trenches, mainly of 30m length but four of 15m length, were arranged across the site. The majority of trenches were set on an east-west and north-south grid, with four of the trenches angled to intercept potential geophysical anomalies (Figs. 2 & 3).

The trial trenching was conducted between the 29th and 31st of June 2018.

The site has been given the Stutton reference STU 093 within the Historic Environment Record (HER) for Suffolk. The national OASIS record for this site is Suffolka1-318924

## **2. Geology and topography**

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According to the British Geological Survey the bedrock of the site is Thames Group clay, silt and sand. This is a marine sedimentary deposit laid in the base of deep seas and consists of coarse to fine-grained slurries of debris washing out from the continental shelf, 34 to 56 million years ago (BGS 2018). There is no current BGS information on superficial deposits but field observations suggest these are mixed deposits of silt, clay and sand.

The site lies within a single field located at TM 1356 3342 (Fig. 1). It is situated on the southern edge of the Shotley Peninsula close to the River Stour and south-west of Stutton Village. Queech Farm is located 500m to the north and Stutton Mill lies 400m to the south-west. The mill is positioned at the mouth of Stutton Brook which flows into Newmill Creek at the River Stour; the brook flows from north to south and is located 300m to the west of the site. The setting comprises arable fields within a mosaic of small woodland areas that forms part of Stutton Hall estate. Undulations within the field suggest a dry valley which crosses north-west to south-east. Heights range between c.12m (in the south-west of the site) to c.8m ordnance datum (in the south-east corner).

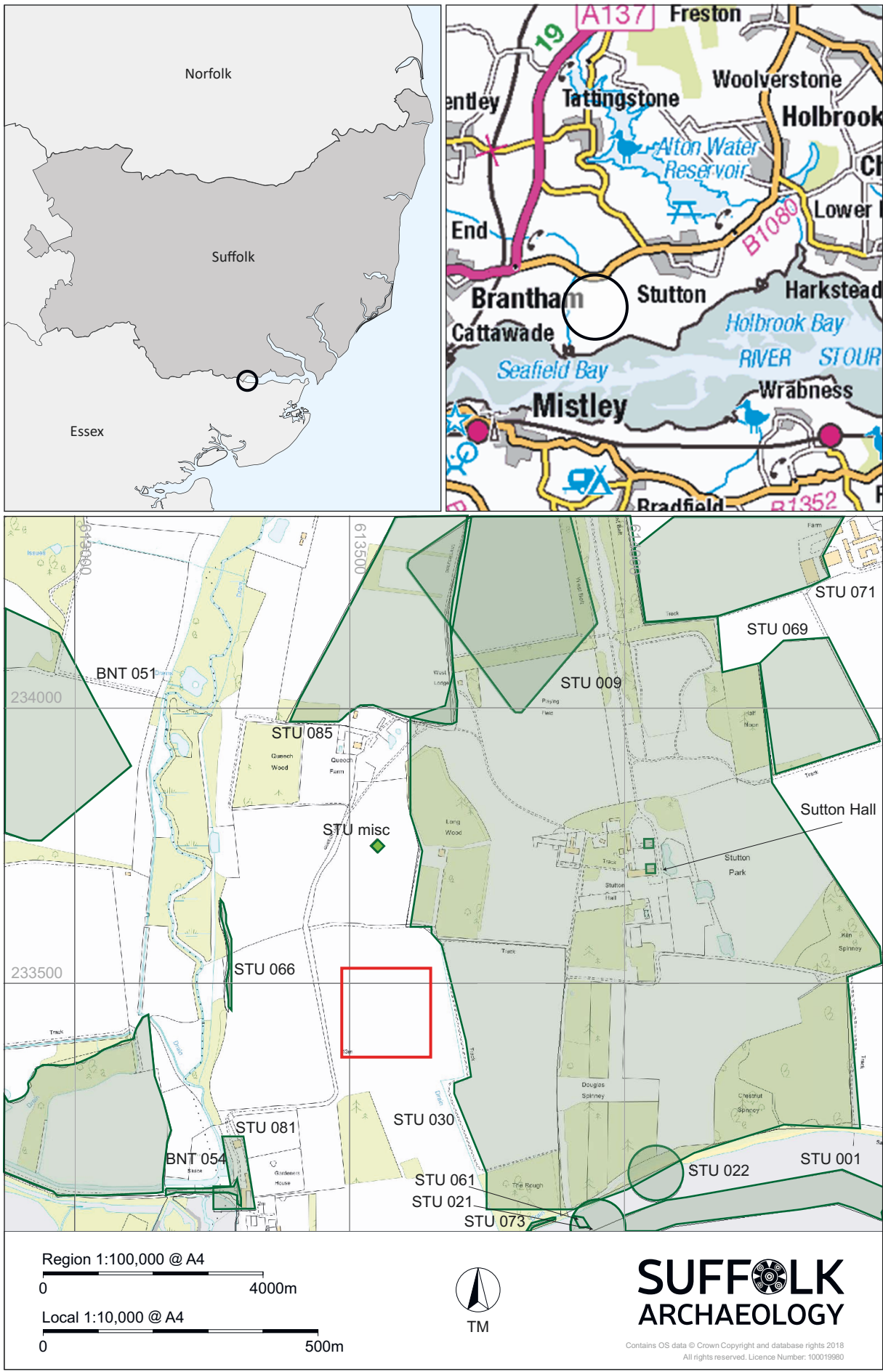


Figure 1. Site location (red)

### **3. Archaeology and historical background**

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The following archaeological and historic information has been provided by the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER reference: 9214197). Sites within a 750m radius are shown in Figure 1.

Prehistoric finds spreads have been found on the River Stour foreshore to the southeast of the site. Mesolithic flint blades and a core (STU 021) and a Neolithic flint scatter (STU 001) were located at distances to the southeast of c.550m and c.530m respectively.

Late Iron Age to Roman pits, a saltern and artefacts including a triangular loomweight and Roman coins (STU 022) were recovered c.600m to the southeast. A Roman trumpet brooch (STU Misc) was found by metal detector c.300m to the north. Possible Iron Age or Roman fieldsystems have been identified by aerial photography. Field boundaries, a trackway and a possible rectilinear enclosure are located at sites STU 009 and STU 085, located c.600m to the north-east and c.550m to the north respectively.

The site is adjacent to the impressive sixteenth century Grade II\* listed great house of Stutton Hall (STU 030) built in 1533 by Sir Edmund Jermy. The house is set within its own gardens and parkland, which extends to within c.200m of the site.

Other post-medieval sites include the watermill at Stutton Mill, c.350m to the southwest (STU 081) which is associated with a complex arrangement of riverwalls and earthworks (BNT 054). Another stretch of riverwall is located c.450m to the southeast (STU 073) and a post-medieval bank is sited c.250m to the west (STU 066).

Recognised from aerial photography, site BNT 051 c.650m to the north-west, appears to indicate a post-medieval fieldsystem.

Undated sites in the vicinity include a double-post alignment on the beach (STU 061), at c.550m to the southeast, field boundaries with an enclosure (STU 069) and a trackway (STU 071) are located c.850m and c.900m to the northeast.

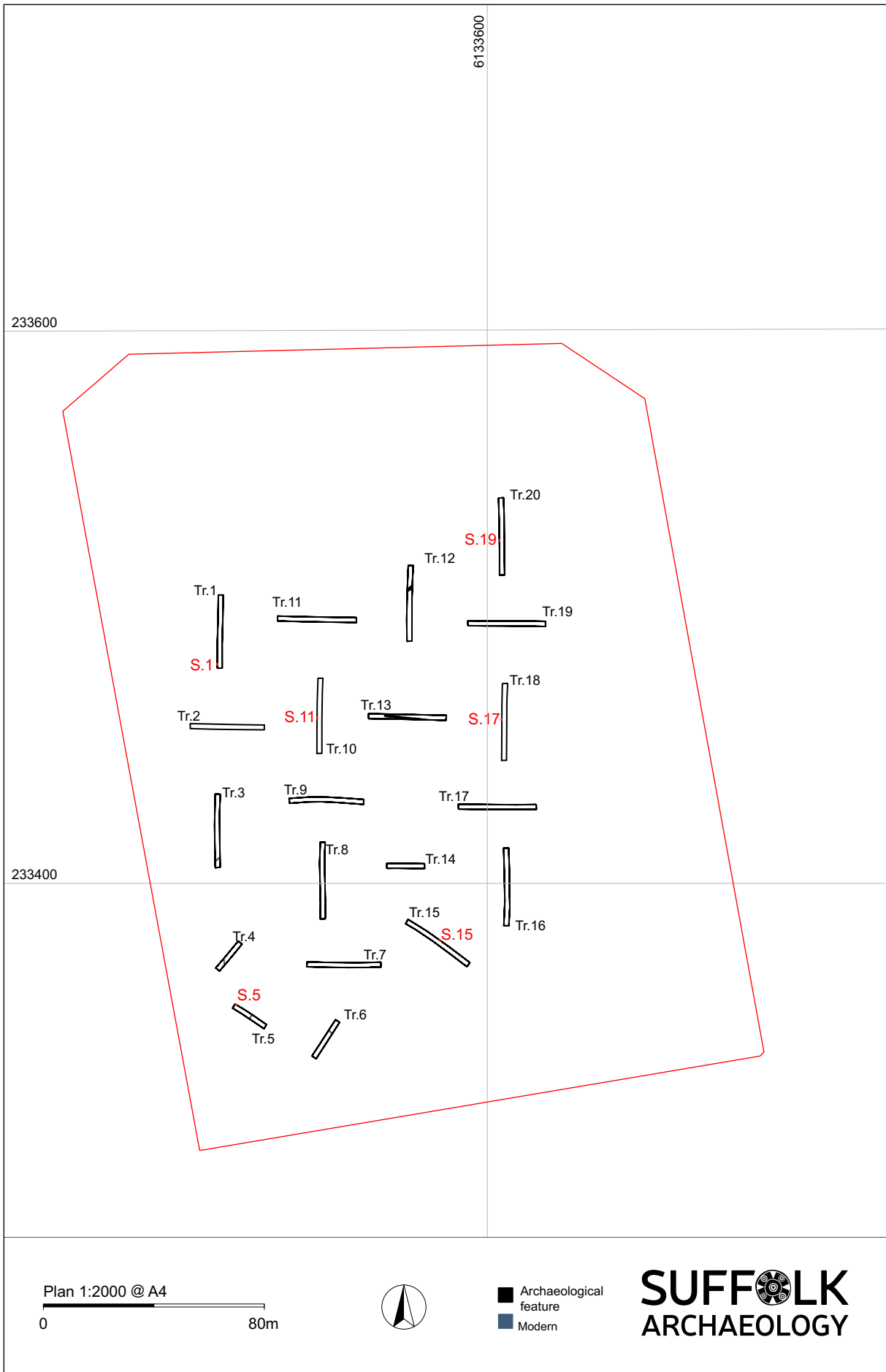


Figure 2. Trench plan showing location of selected sections

## 4. Methodology

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Trial trenches were dug in accordance with the WSI (Appendix 1). The trenches were laid out using a RTK GPS survey unit (Fig. 2). A standing wheat crop of c.1m height covered the site, making the staking-out and access to the trenches restricted.

Trenching was conducted using a 14-tonne, 360° tracked digger equipped with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket. All machining was carried out under direct archaeological observation with the ploughsoil and other overburden removed to reveal natural silty clay (hereafter the 'natural').

The base of each trench was examined for features and finds of archaeological interest. The upcast soil was checked visually for any archaeological finds. Records were made of the position and length of trenches and the depths of deposit encountered. A metal-detector search was conducted of the trench bases.

Possible archaeological features were hand excavated and finds, deposits, feature cuts and fills were given separate context numbers within the range 0001 to 0013. Features were drawn at a scale of 1:20, photographed and finds collected with the relevant context information. Plans were drawn at the scale of 1:50 or 1:100 of the trenches containing features. All features and trench locations were recorded using a RTK GPS survey unit.

All elements of the site archive have been identified with the HER code STU 093. An OASIS record (for the Archaeological Data Service) has been undertaken and the reference code Suffolka1-308924 has been used for this project.

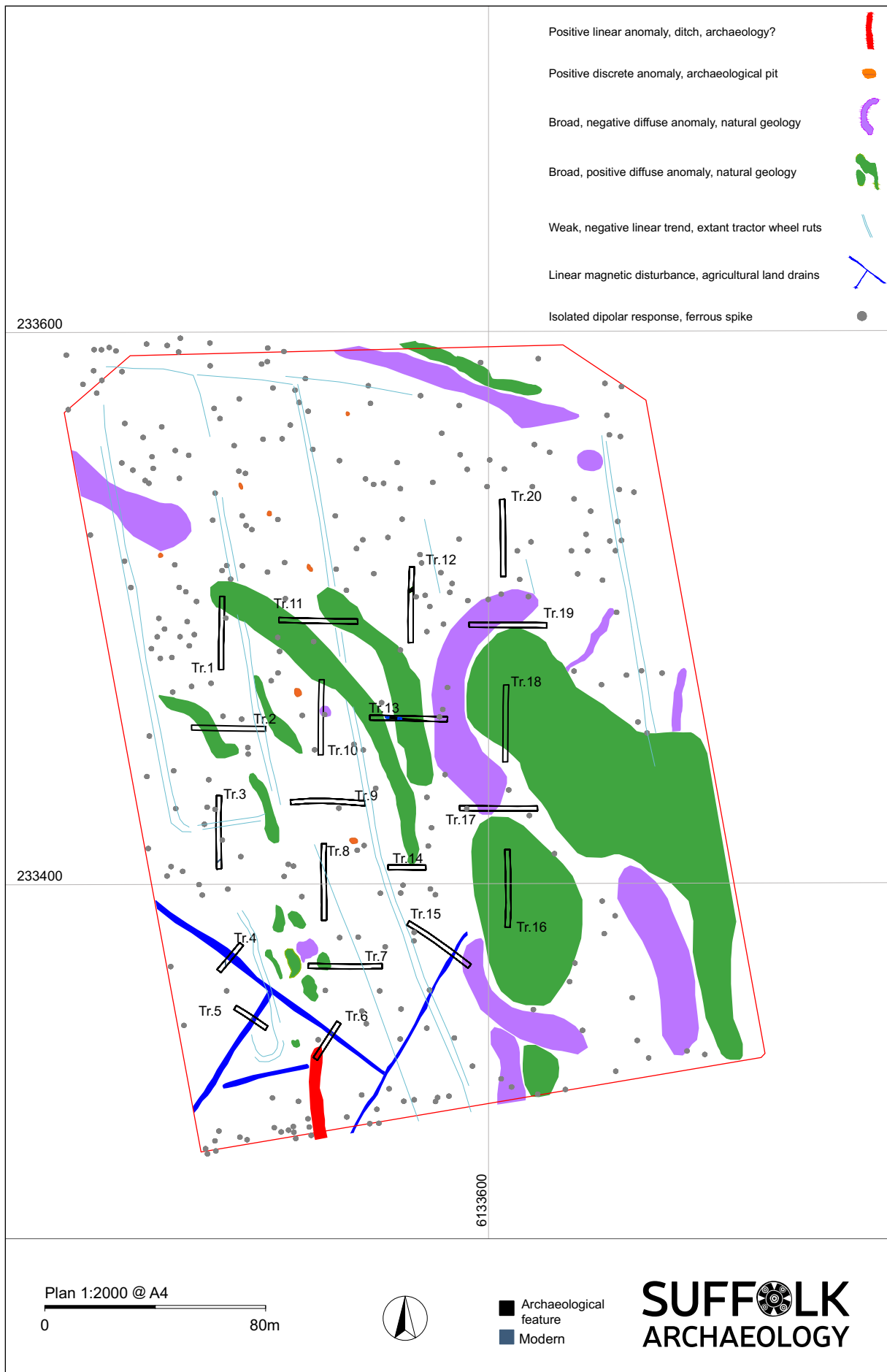


Figure 3. Trench plan with with geophysical survey data

## 5. Results

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### 5.1 Introduction

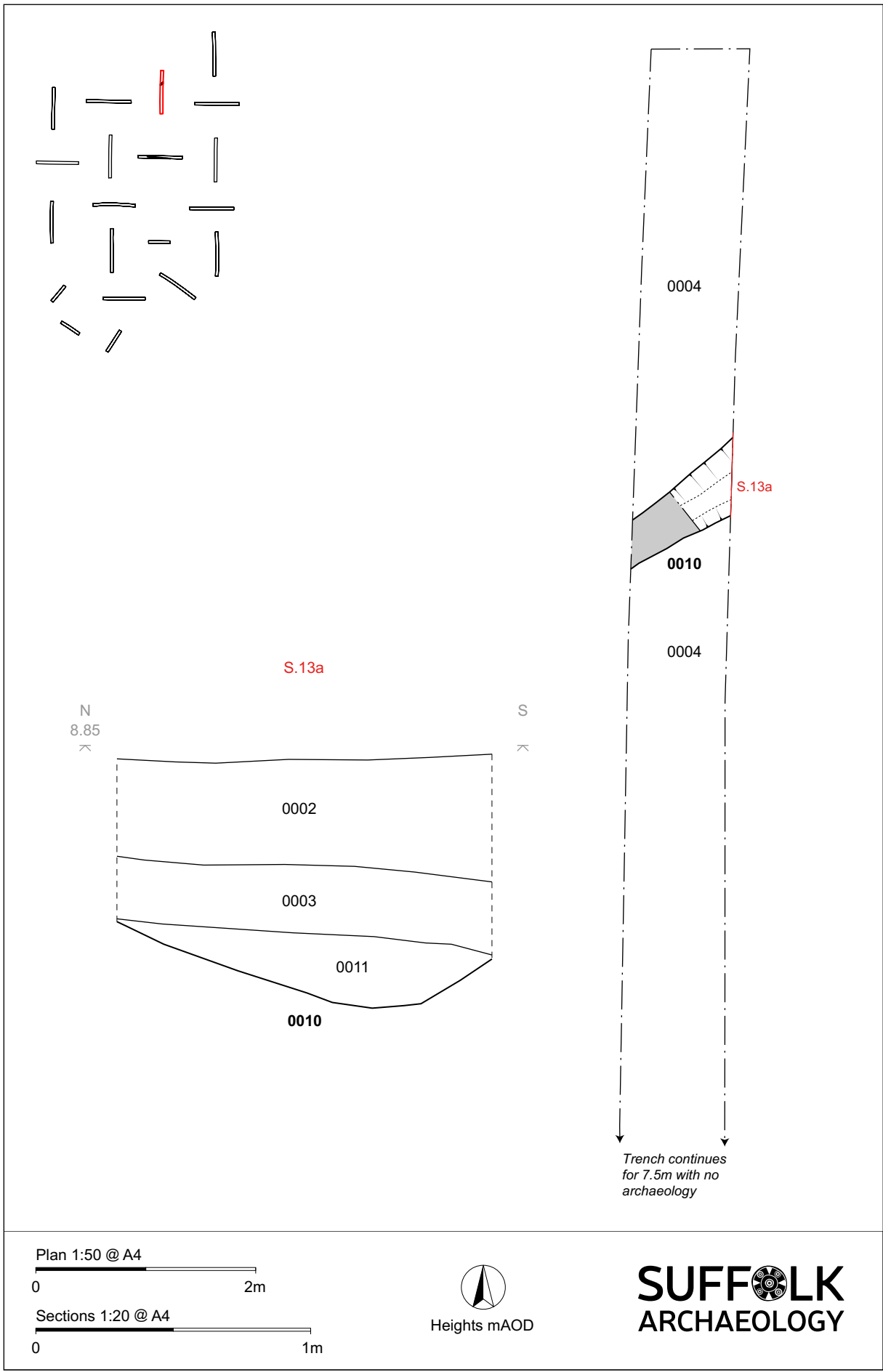
Twenty trenches were dug with the majority of them 30m in length. A plan of trench layout is shown on Figure 2. Trench numbers, orientation, length, depth of ploughsoil, depth to natural and other details are listed in Table 1 below:

Trench no.	Orientation	Length (m)	Depth of ploughsoil (m)	Depth to Nat (m)	Details
1	N-S	30	0.35	0.45	Layer 0003 present
2	E-W	30	0.4	0.4	
3	N-S	30	0.35	0.35	
4	NE-SW	15	0.3	0.3	Ceramic drain
5	NW-SE	15	0.3	0.3	French drain
6	NE-SW	15	0.3	0.3	French drain
7	E-W	30	0.35	0.35	
8	N-S	30	0.35	0.35	
9	E-W	30	0.35	0.35	
10	N-S	30	0.4	0.4	
11	E-W	30	0.4	0.4	Unstrat pot 0009
12	N-S	30	0.35	0.6	Ditch 0010; layer 0003
13	E-W	30	0.3	0.7	Ditch 0005; layer 0003
14	E-W	15	0.35	0.35	
15	NW-SE	30	0.35	0.35	Unstrat pot 0012
16	N-S	30	0.4	0.4	
17	E-W	30	0.35	0.35	Unstrat pot 0013
18	N-S	30	0.35	0.35	
19	E-W	30	0.4	0.4	
20	N-S	30	0.4	0.4	

Table 1. Summary of trench information

Most trenches revealed a thick ploughsoil 0002 of between 0.35 and 0.4m depth, it was only in the south-west corner of the site (trenches 4-6), where the underlying natural had more clay content, that the ploughsoil was thinner (c.0.3m). The ploughsoil layer 0002 was a mid brown grey loose sandy silt, with very low levels of organic rich material so more characteristic of a ploughed subsoil than the usual loam topsoil. It is possible that topsoil has been lost due to modern farming practices so truncation across the site is likely. Soil profiles from a selection of trenches are shown in Figure 6 and their locations shown on Figure 2.





Plan 1:50 @ A4  
 0 ————— 2m  
 Sections 1:20 @ A4  
 0 ————— 1m

  
 Heights mAOD

**SUFFOLK**  
**ARCHAEOLOGY**

Figure 4. Trench 12, plan and section

The natural geological layer across the base of all trenches (deposit 0004) was quite variable. Dense clay was encountered in Trenches 4 to 6 with nearby Trenches 3, 7 and 8 revealing combinations of clay, sand and gravel. All other trenches revealed combinations of pale yellow brown clay silt and silty clay natural.

Possibly due to the pronounced undulations across the site (with a distinct north-west to south-east dry valley crossing the area), a subsoil layer 0003 survived in some of the deeper pockets. This deposit was characterised by light orange grey silt of up to 0.4m depth in Trenches 1 and 13 (Fig. 6; Sec 01 & Fig. 5; Sec 10a). This soil is likely to be of colluvial (hill-wash) origin, filling the dry valley base and other undulations in the field. Layer 0003 was only encountered in Trenches 1, the east end of 7, 12 and 13; significantly it was only in Trenches 12 and 13 that archaeological features were encountered. These features will be discussed in section 5.2 below.

Unstratified pottery sherds were found in Trenches 11 (find 0009), 15 (find 0012) and 17 (find 0013). In all cases the sherds were extremely small and were found on the machined surface of natural. Prehistoric pottery with grog tempering suggesting a late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age date came from 0009, transitional Late Iron Age to Roman pottery from 0013 and Roman greyware from 0012.

Post-medieval/modern ceramic field drains were encountered in Trenches 3 and 4. These were not recorded as archaeological features but were included in the trench survey and are shown in Figures 2 and 3.

A number of trenches were positioned to intercept possible features identified in the geophysical survey of the site (Scofield 2018). Figure 3 shows the trench locations with the geophysical data. Most of these features were interpreted as field drains in the survey and 'French' drains (linear cuts filled with gravel) were identified in Trenches 5 and 6 that appear to correspond to the geophysics, however no field drain was identified in Trench 15 where the geophysics had suggested one may be present. A large north to south running feature of possible archaeological interest was also targeted within Trench 6 but nothing was revealed in this trench (Fig. 3).

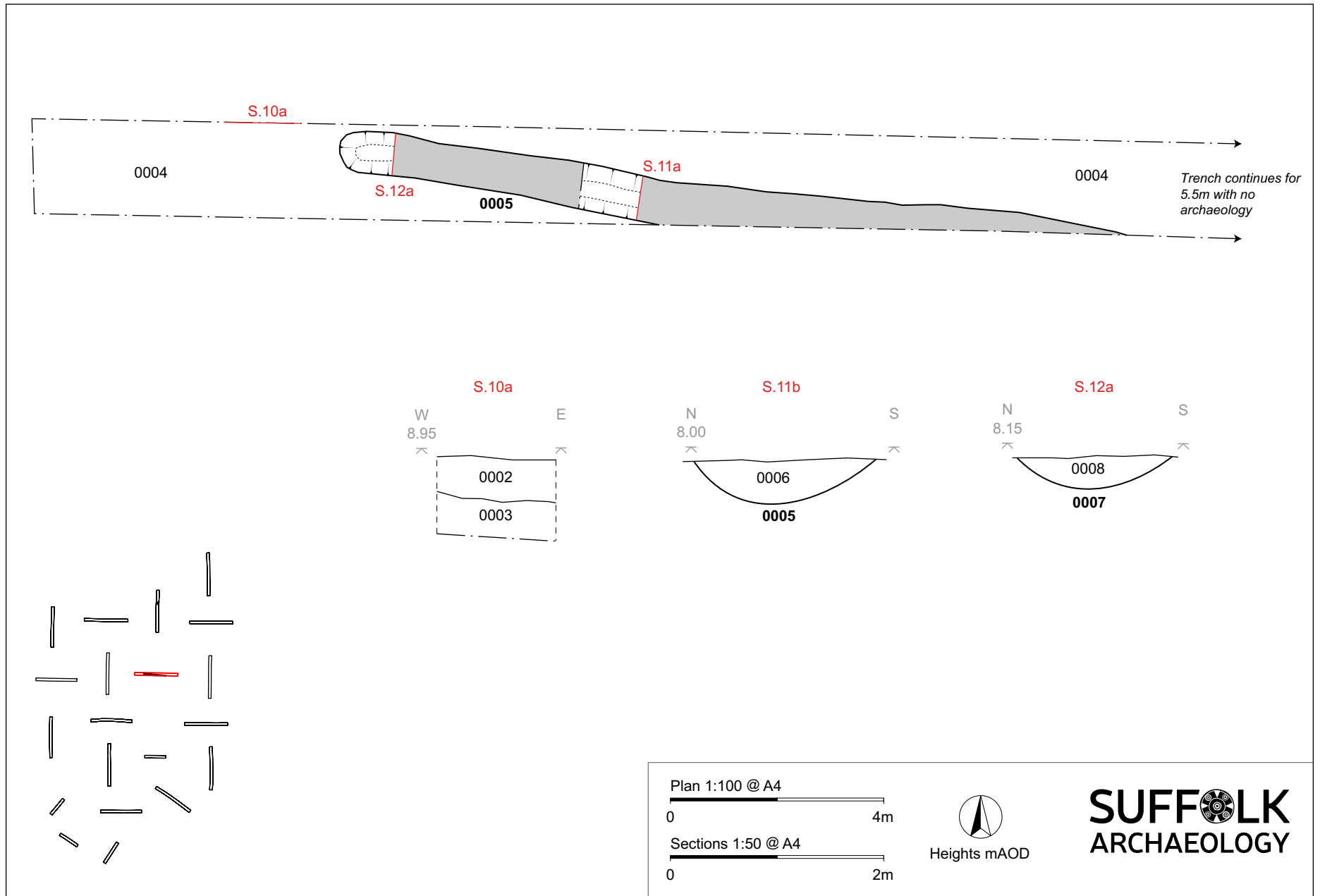


Figure 5. Trench 13, plan and sections

## **5.2 Trench results**

### **Trench 12**

This was a 30m long trench aligned north to south positioned near the northern edge of the site (Fig. 4). It had a ploughsoil (0002) of 0.35m depth under which was deposit 0003 which was of 0.25m thickness. Fill 0011 of ditch 0010 was under this deposit (Fig. 3; Sec. 13a)

### **Ditch 0010**

This was a north-east to south-west running linear feature which crossed Trench 12 in its northern half. In section 13a (Fig. 4), the ditch is sectioned somewhat obliquely so its dimensions are slightly skewed. In reality its width was 0.85m and depth c.0.2m, and, as the section shows, it had a slightly asymmetric profile with the southern edge steeper than the northern. Fill 0011 appeared to be sealed by the subsoil layer 0003 (Fig. 4; Sec 13a). This fill was mid to pale grey brown silty clay with occasional flint pebbles. No finds were recovered from this deposit.

### **Trench 13**

This trench was positioned to the south of Trench 12, was orientated east to west and was 30m in length. Trench 13 revealed an east to west aligned ditch 0005 with a terminal to the west (ditch 0007) shown in Figure 4. As with Trench 13, the subsoil deposit 0003 was present and this was of 0.4m thickness (Fig. 5; Sec 10a). A small quantity of finds was recovered from fill 0006.

### **Ditch 0005**

This ditch was excavated mid trench where a full profile could be recorded. It had gently sloping, slightly concave sides to a wide rounded base (Fig. 5; Sec. 11a). It was 1.7m wide and 0.4m deep. Fill 0006 was mid grey brown silty clay mottled with firm orange clay towards the base. It contained very occasional small charcoal flecks. Finds consisted of small fragments of prehistoric and Roman pottery.

Ditch 0007 represents the terminal at the western end of ditch 0010. Here the width was similar (1.5m) but was somewhat shallower (0.3m) than at 0010. Again, the profile was similar with gently sloping concave sides but with a wide flat base (Fig.5; Sec. 12a). Fill 0008 was similar to 0006 and contained two pieces of struck flint.

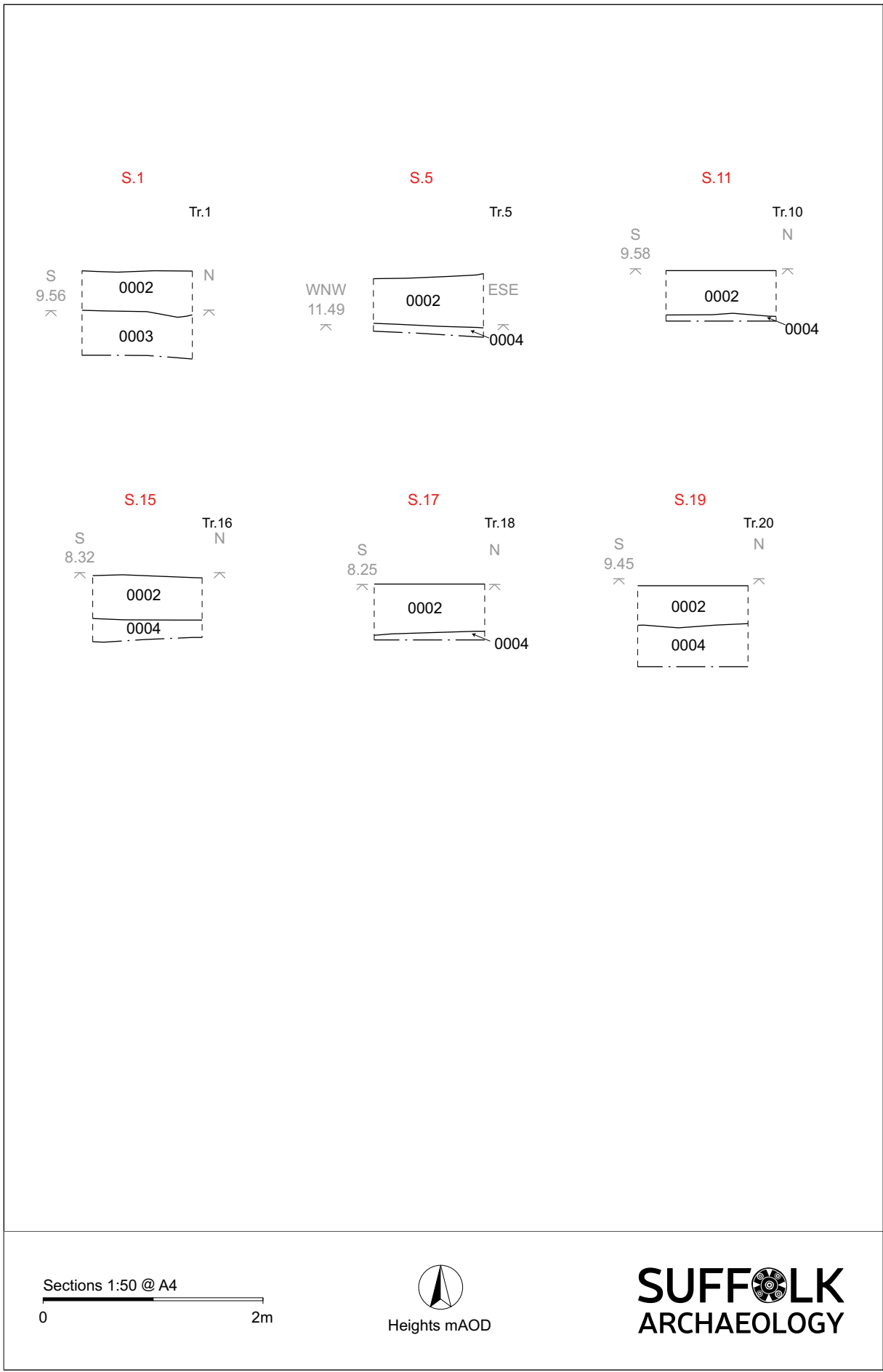


Figure ?. Specimen sections from selected trenches

## 6. Finds and environmental evidence

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Ioannis Smyrnaiois

### 6.1 Introduction

The total hand-collected bulk finds from the evaluation are presented in Table 2 below.

Context	Pottery		Worked Flint		Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	
0006	2	9			Pre, Rom
0008			2	17	
0009	2	3			Pre
0012	1	1			Rom?
0013	2	3			Rom?
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>17</b>	

Table 2. Finds quantities

### 6.2 The Pottery

The site produced seven sherds of pottery weighing 16 grams. The material derived from four contexts and is presented in Appendix 3. With the exception of some small prehistoric fragments, most substantial pieces date to the Late Iron Age-Roman transition and the Roman period.

#### Prehistoric Pottery

Prehistoric pottery from the site consists of three small fragments weighing four grams. The fragments are small and their dates should be treated with caution. More specifically, ditch fill 0006 in Trench 13 produced a small fragment weighing a gram, made from a medium silty fabric with coarse sand and crushed flint (FQ). The date of this fabric is unclear, although similar fabrics are usually noted during the Bronze Age. Unstratified finds 0009 in Trench 11 produced two small fragments weighing three grams, made from a soft silty micaceous fabric with large coarse flint, grog and sand grains (FQGM). This fabric is normally noted during the LNE-EBA, although it is possible to date slightly later.

#### Roman pottery

Roman pottery consists of four fragments weighing 12 grams in total. The material derived from three contexts and is in poor condition. More specifically, ditch fill 0006 in Trench 13 produced an abraded fragment from a typical Roman grey ware base (GX),

weighing 8 grams, and four tiny fragments that probably derived from the same vessel. Unstratified find 0012 in Trench 15 produced a tiny fragment from the same grey ware fabric (GX) weighing a gram. Finally, unstratified find 0013 in Trench 17 produced two fragments from a grog-tempered fabric (GROG) weighing 3 grams. Such fabrics date to the Late Iron Age and Roman transition.

### **6.3 Worked flint**

Ditch fill 0008 in Trench 13 produced two flakes of worked flint weighing 17 grams. One flake is struck from grey-brown flint; it is moderately patinated on one edge, with little edge damage, and carries 15% cortex. The second flake is made from light brown flint; it has no patination and moderate edge damage, preserving roughly 20% cortex. Both flakes cannot be closely dated.

### **6.4 Discussion of material evidence**

The material evidence from the site suggests some Roman activities in the vicinity. Furthermore, the presence of grog-tempered fabrics is likely to suggest that such Roman activities are early, dating to the LIA-Roman transition. Limited prehistoric pottery from the site, which is also in poor condition, suggests that Roman activities probably disturbed earlier features that dated to the LNE-EBA.

## 7. Conclusions

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The site is within a rich archaeological landscape, in a prime location overlooking the River Stour. Prehistoric and Roman remains associated with the river foreshore are located to the south of the site and aerial photography indicates a rich complex of field boundaries, trackways and enclosures to the north. The site is adjacent to the significant 16th-century building of Stutton Hall and is on the edge of the gardens and parkland associated with this great house. Other post-medieval sites include the watermill on the Stutton Brook and a series of riverwalls, earthworks and embankments associated with the brook and the River Stour.

Archaeological remains in the form of ditch 0005 in Trench 13 and ditch 0010 in Trench 12 were the only features of archaeological significance identified during the evaluation. A small amount of Roman pottery was recovered from ditch 0007 along with a single piece of prehistoric pot, likely to be residual. A small number of unstratified finds were also found, including prehistoric pottery from Trench 11, with transitional or Roman ceramics from Trenches 15 and 17. It might be significant that the features and finds have been found in trenches within a swathe on a north-west to south-east orientation, possibly associated with the dry valley that bisects the site on this axis.

It seems possible that ditches 0005 and 0010 have been preserved under a potential colluvial deposit (layer 0003) which has accumulated across the base of the dry valley. Other areas of the site have probably been subjected to a considerable degree of truncation; the poor condition of the ploughsoil suggesting that most of the humic loam topsoil has been lost, probably through erosion.

Given the rich spread of archaeological remains, crop marks and historic houses in the immediate vicinity, it might appear strange that so little has been identified within the site. It is possible however that past activity has favoured the lighter, well-drained and easily tilled soils of the surrounding areas of sand and gravel geology and have avoided the denser, more poorly drained clay and silty clay soils encountered across the site.



## **8. Archive deposition**

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Paper, digital and finds archive will be submitted to the county HER, ref STU 093.

## **9. Acknowledgements**

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The fieldwork was carried out by Catherine Douglas, Jez Meredith and Rui Oliveira. Project management was provided by Rhodri Gardner, who provided advice during the fieldwork. Mark Sommers commented on an earlier draft of this report. The finds were processed by Clare Wooton and Ruth Beveridge, with Ioannis Smyrnaiois producing the final finds report. The illustrations were prepared by Ellie Cox.

## **10. Bibliography**

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Schofield, T., 2018, *Geophysical Survey Report: Stutton Park Reservoir (STU 093)*. SACIC report no: 2018/047.

### **Websites**

British Geological Survey, 2018, <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>



## Appendix 1. Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)



### **Proposed Reservoir, Queech Farm, Stutton, Suffolk (STU 093)**

Written Scheme of Investigation for a Programme  
of Archaeological Trenched Evaluation

**Date:** May 2018

**Prepared by:** Stuart Boulter

**Issued to:** Rachael Abraham (SCC Archaeological Service)

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## Summary Project Details

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<b>Site Name</b>	Queech Farm
<b>Site Location/Parish</b>	Stutton
<b>Grid Reference</b>	TM 1357 3345
<b>Access</b>	Queech Lane
<b>Planning Application No</b>	DC/18/01072
<b>HER code</b>	STU 093
<b>OASIS ref.</b>	suffolka1-316221
<b>Type:</b>	Trial-trenching evaluation
<b>Proposal</b>	Farm reservoir
<b>Project start date</b>	TBC
<b>Fieldwork duration</b>	Up to 12 days
<b>Number of personnel on site</b>	Projected as 4 SACIC staff

### Personnel and contact numbers

---

<b>SACIC Project Manager</b>	Rhod Gardner	Office: 01449 900120 Mobile: 07810 647259
<b>Project Officer (first point of on-site contact)</b>	TBC	Office: Mobile:
<b>SCC Curatorial Officer</b>	Rachael Abraham	Office: 01284 741232 Mobile: 07595 089516
<b>Consultant</b>	N/A	-

### Emergency contacts

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<b>Local Police</b>	Ipswich Police Station, 10 Museum Street, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 1HT	101 or emergency 999
<b>Site First Aider</b>	TBC	Mobile:
<b>Location of nearest A&amp;E</b>	Heath Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 5PD	01284 713000

### Hire details

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<b>Plant:</b>	Holmes Plant	Office: 01473 890766 Mobile: 07860 121821
<b>Welfare</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Tool hire:</b>	N/A	N/A

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## **Contents**

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

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1. Site location
2. Proposed Location of Evaluation Trenches

## **Appendices**

1. Health and Safety Policy
2. Insurance Documentation

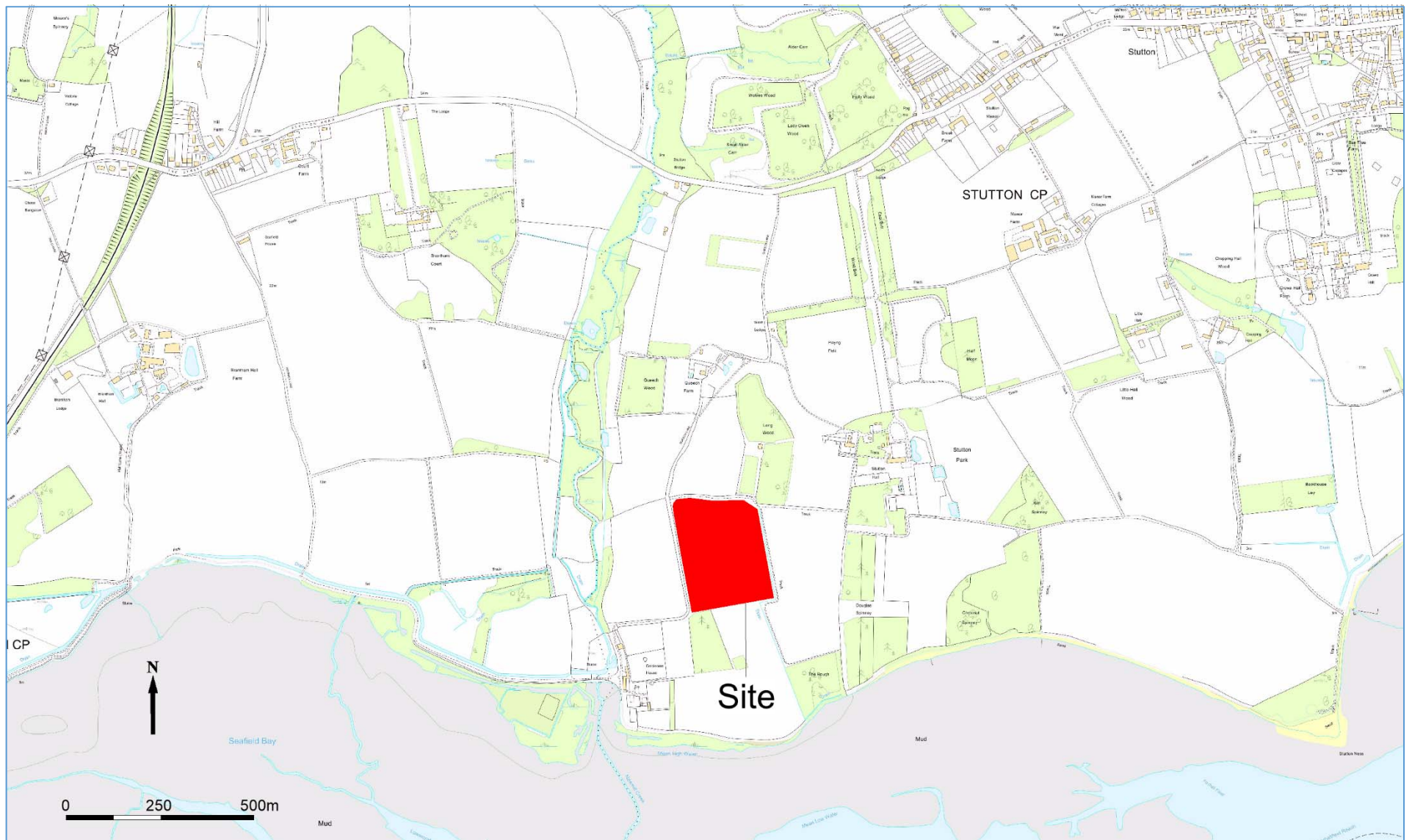
## 1. Background

- 1.1 Suffolk Archaeology Community Interest Company (hereafter SACIC) have been commissioned to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation at the site of a proposed farm reservoir at Queech Farm, Suffolk (Figure 1). The first element of this work involves the preparation of a Written Scheme of Investigation (this document).
- 1.2 The present stage of work is being requested by Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (hereafter SCCAS). The Local Planning Authority (hereafter LPA) were advised that as a condition of any planning consent, a programme of archaeological work should be agreed in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (Para 141). The purpose of such work being the recording and advancement of understanding of any heritage assets present at the location before they are destroyed in the course of the development. The evaluation will also inform the final siting of the reservoir in regard to any significant heritage assets that may benefit from being preserved *in situ*.
- 1.3 The evaluation will be conducted in adherence to a written Brief prepared by Rachael Abraham of SCCAS, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018, covering this specific planning condition. Any archaeological mitigation work required as a result of the evaluation will require a new SCCAS Brief, and will be subject to a separate WSI.
- 1.4 While the site itself has never been subjected systematic archaeological investigation, it has a high archaeological potential based on the previously recorded archaeology listed in the county Historic Environment Record (hereafter HER) and its location overlooking the River Stour; an aspect considered favourable for human activity of all periods. Many cropmarks are recorded in the surrounding fields (STU 009, 069, 085, BNT 051, 058) along with extensive finds scatters of prehistoric, Roman and medieval date (STU 014, 021, 022 and Misc.). A full HER search will be commissioned as part of the evaluation programme.
- 1.5 The groundworks associated with construction of the reservoir will completely destroy any hitherto surviving archaeological deposits, particularly within its central footprint (Fig. 2).
- 1.6 The contents of the WSI comply with the SCCAS standard Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation (2017) and Requirements for Archaeological Excavation (2017), as well as the following national and regional guidance:
  - *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)*, Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (March 2012);
  - *Code of Conduct*, Chartered Institute for Field Archaeologists 2014;
  - *Standard and Guidance Archaeological Excavation*, Chartered Institute for Field Archaeologists, 2014;
  - *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The Morphe Project Managers' Guide*, Historic England, 2015;

- *Gurney, D 2003 Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, E. Anglian Archaeol. Occ. Paper No. 14, 2003 Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region;
- *Archaeological Archives in Suffolk Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition*, Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (revised 2017)

1.7 The research aims of the evaluation are as follows:

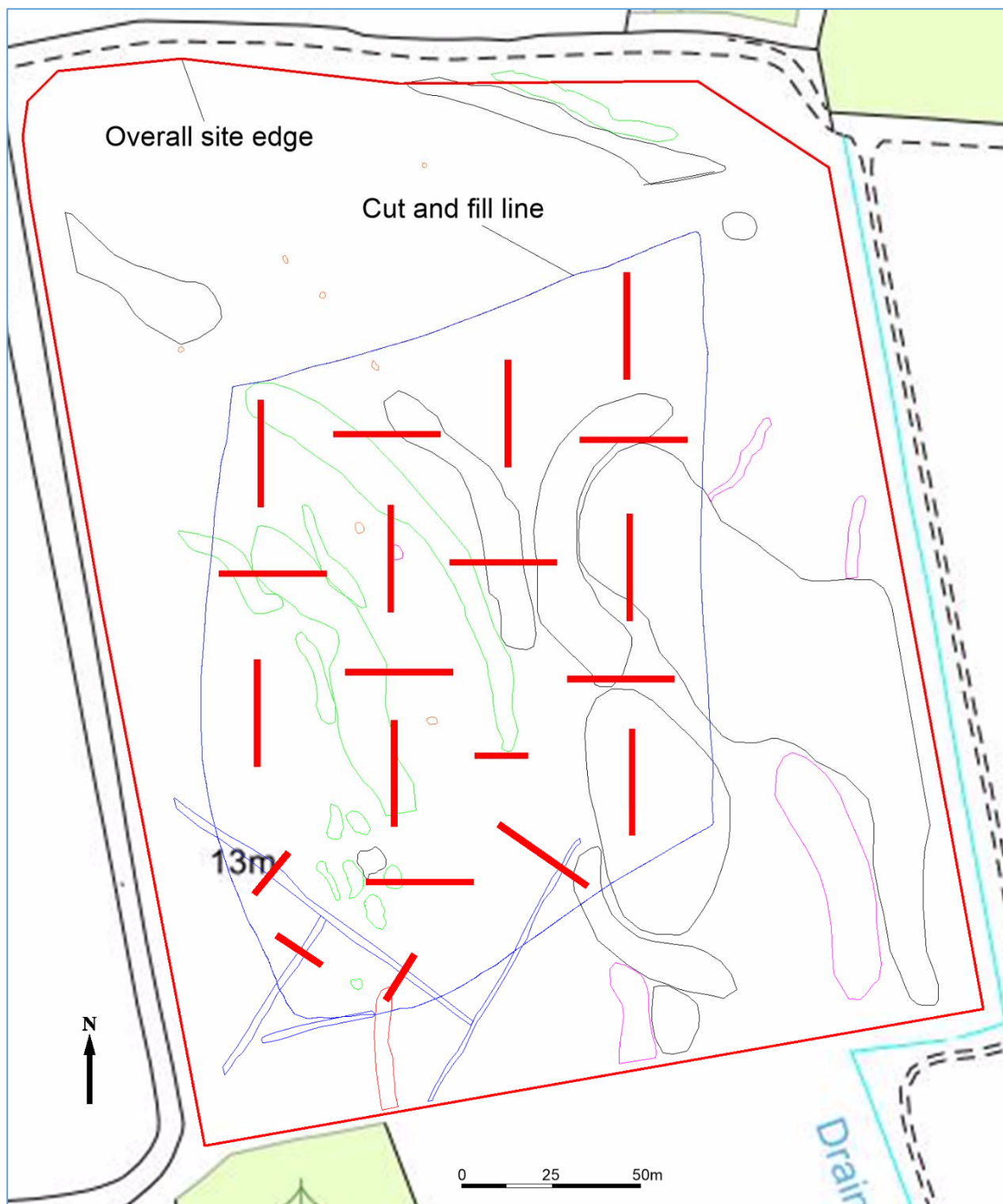
- *Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation;*
- *Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence masking colluvial/alluvial deposits;*
- *Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence;*
- *Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.*



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Figure 1. Site Location





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Figure 2. Proposed Location of Evaluation Trenches

## 2 Fieldwork

- 2.1 The archaeological excavation fieldwork will be carried out by full-time professional employees of SACIC. The project team will be led in the field by an experienced member of staff of Project Officer grade/experience (TBC). The excavation team will comprise a Project Officer, and one/two experienced excavators as required. In addition, a surveyor and experienced metal detectorist will be used as and when required.
- 2.2 It has been agreed with SCCAS that the initial evaluation will comprise a 4% sample of a c.2.4 hectares area that represents the part of the overall c.6.2 hectares site that will be subject to cut rather than fill during the construction process; equating to sixteen 1.8m by 30m long trenches and four 1.8m by 15m long trenches. These will be distributed to investigate possible archaeological features identified during the earlier Geophysical Survey, particularly the ditches in the south-west corner of the site, with the remainder randomly spread to give a good general cover (Fig. 2). A further 1% by area, equating to a 133m length of trench, will be held in reserve to be activated only after discussion with SCCAS should further definition/clarification of deposits be required.
- 2.3 At this juncture no information has been received from the client regarding existing services. A CAT survey will be undertaken on the line of the proposed trenches prior to excavation, but damage to hitherto unknown services that are not identified during this survey will not be the responsibility of SACIC.
- 2.4 The following general principles will be applied for the excavation of the trial-trenches:
  - a) All mechanical excavation will be undertaken using a toothless ditching bucket for a good clean cut.
  - b) The overburden will be excavated down to the top of the first undisturbed archaeological horizon, or the upper surface of the naturally occurring subsoil.
  - c) Spoil will be removed and stockpiled adjacent to the evaluation trenches or in an area designated by the client.
  - d) Topsoil will be stored separately to any underlying colluvial material unless this is deemed unnecessary by the client.
  - e) All excavation will be under the direct supervision of an archaeologist.
- 2.5 Archaeological deposits and features will be sampled by hand excavation in order to satisfy the project aims (see section 1.7) and also comply with the SCCAS Requirements for Archaeological Evaluation (2017) and Excavation (2017). Where types of deposit are encountered that are suitable for mechanical excavation, this will only be undertaken following agreement with SCCAS.

- 2.6 No feature will be excavated to a depth in excess 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 (SCCAS). Deeper excavation can be undertaken provided suitable 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.
- 2.7 While it is considered unlikely that there will be deep holes left open on site, where necessary high visibility safety fencing will be employed.
- 2.8 An 'overall features plan' and levels AOD will be recorded using RTK GPS survey equipment (or radio base station if required). Feature sections and plans will be recorded at a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate. All recording conventions used will be compatible with the County HER.
- 2.9 The site will be recorded under a unique HER number acquired from the Suffolk HER Office (STU 093) and archaeological contexts will be recorded in a '*unique continuous numbering sequence*' on pro forma Context Recording sheets and entered into an associated database.
- 2.10 A digital photographic record will be made throughout the excavation.
- 2.11 A metal detector search will be made at all stages of the excavation works covering the following;
- i) Ground surface prior to stripping
  - ii) The stripped surface
  - iii) The upcast spoil
- 2.12 All pre-modern finds (with the exception of unstratified animal bone) will be kept and no discard policy will be considered until all the finds have been processed and assessed.
- 2.13 All finds will be brought back to the SACIC 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 external specialists.
- 2.14 Where bulk environmental soil samples are required, these will be a maximum of 40 litres each and will only be taken from suitable features and retained until an appropriate specialist has assessed their potential for palaeoenvironmental remains. Decisions can then be made on the need for further analysis following this assessment. A suitable feature will be deemed one that is sealed and stratigraphically secure, datable and exhibits potential for the survival of palaeoenvironmental material; usually at least two of these criteria will need to be met in order for it to merit taking a sample. If necessary advice will be sought from Historic England's (formerly English Heritage's) Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science on the need for specialist environmental sampling.

- 2.15 In the event of human remains being encountered on the site, guidelines from the Ministry of Justice will be followed and, if deemed necessary, a suitable licence obtained before their removal from the site. Human remains will be treated at all stages with care and respect, and will be dealt with in accordance with the law. They will be recorded *in-situ* and subsequently lifted, packed and marked to standards compatible with those described in the IFA's Technical Paper 13 Excavation and post-excavation treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains, by McKinley & Roberts. Following full recording and analysis, the remains will be either be stored in a suitable archive repository or reburied at an appropriate site.

### **3 Post-excavation**

- 3.1 The unique project HER number (STU 093) will be clearly marked on all documentation and material relating to the project.
- 3.2 The post-excavation finds work will be managed by SACIC'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 Artefacts and ecofacts will be held by SACIC until analysis of the material is complete.
- 3.4 Site data will be entered on a computerised database compatible with the County HER. Site plans and sections will be digitised and will form part of the site archive. Ordnance Datum levels will be written on the section sheets. The photographic archive will be fully catalogued.
- 3.5 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 four 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 Historic England (formerly 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 Historic England specialists.
- 3.11 An industrial waste assessment will cover all relevant material (i.e. fired clay finds as well as slag).
- 3.12 Once the fieldwork phase of the project is completed, a full site archive and report, the latter presenting the results of the evaluation will be prepared.
- 3.13 The report will contain a stand-alone summary and a description of the evaluation methodology. It will also contain a clear separation of the objective account of the archaeological evidence from its archaeological interpretation and recommendations to assist SCCAS regarding the need for and scope of any further mitigation. It will contain sufficient information to stand as an archive report should further work not be required along with the results of a formally commissioned HER search evidenced by its invoice number.
- 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 County HER is registered with the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. SACIC 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 interim report will be submitted to SCCAS for approval.
- 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. 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).
- 3.19 The project archive shall be compiled in accordance with the guidelines issued by the SCCAS (revised 2017). 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 The law dictates that client can have no claim to the ownership of human remains. Any such remains will be at least temporally stored by SCCAS prior to their reburial or in accordance with the details of the site's Ministry of Justice licence.
- 3.21 In the rare event that artefacts of significant monetary value are discovered separate ownership arrangements may be negotiated with SCCAS, provided they are not subject to Treasure Act legislation.
- 3.22 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 fourteen 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.
- 3.23 Any object/s 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 SACIC, their subcontractors or any volunteers under their control, will not be eligible for any share of a treasure reward.

## **4 Additional considerations**

### **4.1 Health and Safety**

- 4.1.1 The project will be carried out in accordance with SACIC's Health and Safety Policy at all times. A copy of this policy is provided in Appendix 1.
- 4.1.2 All SACIC staff are experienced in working on similar sites with similar conditions to those that will be encountered on the present site and are aware of SACIC H&S policies. All permanent SACIC staff are holders of CSCS cards.
- 4.1.3 A separate Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) document will be prepared for the site and provided to the client. Copies will be available to SCCAS on request.
- 4.1.4 All staff will be aware of the project's risk assessment and will receive a safety induction from the Project Officer.
- 4.1.5 It may be necessary for site visits to be made by external specialists or SCCAS. All such staff and visitors must abide by SACIC's H&S requirements and will be inducted as required and made aware of any relevant high-risk activities.
- 4.1.6 Site staff, official visitors and volunteers are all covered by SACIC's insurance policies. Policy details are shown in Appendix 2.

### **4.2 Environmental controls**

- 4.2.1 SACIC is committed to following an EMS policy. All our preferred providers and subcontractors have been issued with environmental guidelines. On site the Project Officer will police environmental concerns. In the event of spillage or contamination reporting procedures will be carried out in accordance with SACIC's EMS policies.

### **4.3 Plant machinery**

- 4.3.1 A 360° tracked mechanical excavators of minimum c.14 tonnes and equipped with a full range of buckets will be required to undertake the soil-stripping. Should the plant and its operators be provided by SACIC rather than the client, the sub-contracted plant machinery will be accompanied by a fully qualified operator who will hold an up-to-date Construction Plant Competence Scheme (CPCS) card (approved by the CITB).

#### **4.4 Site security**

- 4.4.1 Unless previously agreed with the client, this WSI (and the associated quotation) assumes that the site will be sufficiently secure for archaeological work to be undertaken.
- 4.4.2 In this instance, all security requirements including fencing, padlocks for gates etc. are the responsibility of the client.

#### **4.5 Access**

- 4.5.1 The client will secure access to the site for SACIC personnel and any subcontracted plant, and obtain all necessary permissions from any landowners and tenants. This includes the siting of any vehicles and other facilities required for the work.
- 4.5.2 Any costs incurred to secure access, or incurred as a result of access being withheld (for example by a tenant or landowner) will not be the responsibility of SACIC. Such costs or delays incurred will be charged to the client in addition to the archaeological project fees.

#### **4.6 Site preparation**

- 4.6.1 The client is responsible for clearing the site in a manner that enables the archaeological works to go ahead as described. Unless previously agreed the costs of any subsequent preparatory works will be charged to the client in addition to the archaeological project fees.

#### **4.7 Backfilling**

- 4.7.1 Full reinstatement has not been offered by SACIC for this project other than sequentially pushing the upcast material into the trench and compacting with the digger tracks. Backfilling will not occur until approval has been granted by SCCAS.

#### **4.8 Monitoring**

- 4.8.1 Arrangements for monitoring visits by the LPA and its representatives (SCCAS) will be made promptly in order to comply with the requirements of the brief. The site will need to be formally signed off by SCCAS prior to any areas being handed back for development.



## 5 Staffing

### 5.1 The following staff will comprise the Project Team:

- 1 x Project Manager (supervisory only, not based on site full-time)
- 1 x Project Officer (full time)
- 1-3 x Site Assistant/metal detectorist (as required)
- 1 x Site Surveyor (as required)
- 1 x Finds/Post-excavation manager (part time, as required)
- 1 x Finds Specialist (part time, as required)
- 1 x Environmental Supervisor (as required)
- 1 x Finds Assistant or Supervisor (part time, as required)
- 1 x Senior Graphics Assistant (part time, as required)

### 5.2 Project Management will be undertaken by Rhodri Gardner and the Project Officer in charge on site is yet to be determined. Site Assistants will be drawn from SACIC's qualified and experienced staff. SACIC will not employ volunteer, amateur or student staff, whether paid or unpaid, to undertake any of the roles outlined in 5.1.

### 5.3 Post-excavation tasks, where possible, will be undertaken by SACIC staff (see below).

Name	Specialism
Ryan Wilson, Ellie Cox, Gemma Bowen, Rui Santos	Graphics and illustration
Richenda Goffin	Post Roman pottery and CBM
Dr Ioannis Smyrniaos	Prehistoric pottery, Roman Pottery and general finds
Dr Ruth Beveridge	Small Finds
Anna West	Environmental sample processing/assessment
Dr Ruth Beveridge, Clare Wootton	Finds quantification/assessment
Jonathan Van Jennians	Finds Processing
Dr Ruth Beveridge	Archiving

### 5.4 In some instances, it may be necessary to employ outside specialists (see below).

Name	Specialism	Organisation
Anderson, Sue	Human skeletal remains; Post Roman pottery	Freelance
Bates, Sarah	Flint	Freelance
Batt, Cathy	Archaeomagnetic dating	University of Bradford
Blades, Nigel	Metallurgy	Freelance
Bond, Julie	Cremated animal bone	University of Bradford
Boreham, Steve	Pollen	University of Cambridge
Breen, Anthony	Documentary Research	Freelance
Briscoe, Diana	Anglo-Saxon pottery stamps	Freelance
Brugmann, Birte	Beads	Freelance
Cameron, Esther	Mineral Preserved Organics	Freelance
Challinor, Dana	Wood and charcoal identification	Freelance
Cook, Gordon	Radiocarbon dating	SUERC
Curl, Julie	Faunal remains	Freelance
Damian Goodburn	Wood and woodworking	MOLA
Hamilton, Derek	Bayesian modelling	SUERC
Harrington, Sue	Textiles	Freelance
Hines, John	Saxon artefacts	University of Cardiff
Holden, Sue	Illustrator	Freelance
Keyes, Lynn	Metal working	Freelance
Macphail, Richard	Soil micromorphology	University College London
Metcalf, Michael	Saxon coins	Ashmolean Museum
Mould, Quita	Leather	Freelance
Park-Newman, Julia	Conservation	Freelance
Plouviez, Jude	Roman coins and brooches	Freelance
Riddler, Ian	Worked bone	Freelance
Scull, Christopher	Early Anglo-Saxon settlement & cemeteries	University of Cardiff

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Trench No	Feature Type	Category	Description
0001					Other	General unstrat number for finds, none collected under this number (see 0009, 0012 & 0013 for unstrat pot finds)
0002					Layer	Ploughsoil: mid grey brown loose sandy silt with freq roots & occ charc flecks
0003					Layer	Sub layer: mixed mid/pale, orange/grey brown friable silt with occ mineral flecking
0004					Layer	Natural: variable, mainly pale to mid orange brown silty clay with areas of purer orange clay and sand/gravel mainly towards the SW corner of the site (Trs 4-8)
0005	0005	0005	13	Ditch	Cut	E-W running linear ditch with open concave profile; width 1.7m, depth 0.4m
0006	0005	0005	13	Ditch	Fill	Mid grey brown silty clay mottled with firm orange clay mottled with firm orange clay towards the base, v occ tiny charc flecks; crumbs of ?preh pot
0007	0007	0005	13	Ditch	Cut	West terminus of ditch 0005, open concave sides to flat base; width 1.5m, depth 0.3m
0008	0007	0005	13	Ditch	Fill	Mid grey brown firm/sticky silty clay, containing occ tiny charc flecks; no finds
0009			11		Other	Unstrat pot from surface of Natural, Tr 11
0010	0010	0010	12	Ditch	Cut	NE-SW orientated ditch passing thru N end of Tr 12; Sec 13a shows ditch at slight oblique angle; width 0.85m, depth 0.19 - 0.24m; NW side of ditch gradually sloping, SE side steeper, slightly rounded/concave base
0011	0010	0010	12	Ditch	Fill	Mid grey brown/pale grey brown silty clay with some whitish & orange clay patches, firm/sticky; containing occ sub-ang flints; no finds
0012			15		Other	Unstrat pot from surface of Natural, SE end Tr 15
0013			17		Other	Unstrat pot, surface of natural, W end Tr 17

### Appendix 3. Bulk finds catalogue

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Context	Pottery		Worked Flint		Spotdate
	No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g	
0006	2	9			Pre, Rom
0008			2	17	
0009	2	3			Pre
0012	1	1			Rom?
0013	2	3			Rom?

## Appendix 4. OASIS summary

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OASIS ID: [suffolka1-318924](#)

### Project details

Project name	STU 093 proposed reservoir Queech Farm, Stutton
Short description of the project	The site is located in a prominent area, overlooking the River Stour to the south, within a rich archaeological landscape. The site had previously been investigated by a geophysical survey so the twenty trenches of the evaluation targeted some of the anomalies identified in the survey while other trenches were placed on a formal grid across the rest of the area. The trenches were positioned within the cut area for the proposed farm reservoir. A number of modern field drains were recorded and these were likely to correspond to some of the geophysics anomalies recorded. Linear ditches were encountered in two of the trenches towards the northern edge of the evaluated area. One of the ditches was associated with a small amount of Roman pottery. Small pieces of probable prehistoric pottery and two pieces of struck flint from the same ditch are likely to be earlier, residual finds. Unstratified pottery from other trenches was dated to the later prehistoric, Late Iron Age/Roman transition and Roman periods.
Project dates	Start: 29-05-2018 End: 31-05-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	STU 093 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	DC/18/01072 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""; ""Targeted Trenches""
Development type	Farm infrastructure (e.g. barns, grain stores, equipment stores, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH STUTTON STU 093 proposed reservoir Queech Farm
Study area	2.4 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 1356 3342 51.957641569033 1.108569786383 51 57 27 N 001 06 30 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	Rachael Abraham
Project director/manager	Rhodri Gardner
Project supervisor	Jezz Meredith
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Database", "GIS", "Images raster / digital photography", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Miscellaneous Material", "Plan", "Section"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	STU 093 Archaeological Evaluation Report: proposed reservoir, Queech Farm, Stutton
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Meredith, J.
Other bibliographic details	SACIC rpt 2018/058
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Suffolk Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Needham Market
Description	Short eval report, nice plan, features two ditches
Entered by	Jezz Meredith (jezz.meredith@suffolkarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	12 June 2018

## OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice

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