

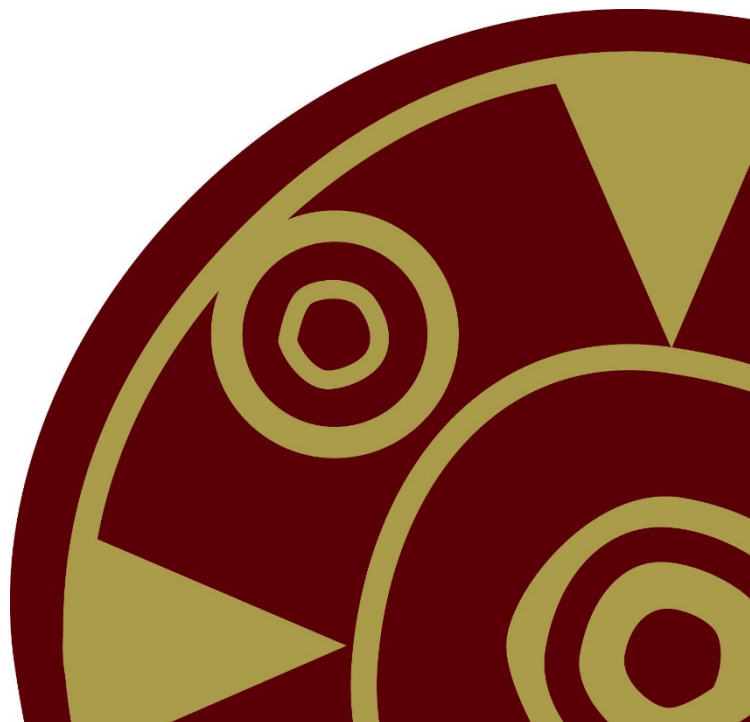


Former Baptist burial ground, Croft Lane Diss, Norfolk

Client: Conclomeg Construction Ltd.

Date:
October 2018

ENF 144814
Archaeological Evaluation Report
SACIC Report No. 2018/80
Author: Linzi Everett
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HER Information

Site Code:	ENF 144814
Site Name:	Former Baptist Burial Ground, Croft Lane
Parish:	Diss
Report Number:	2018/80
Planning Application No:	Pre-planning
Date of Fieldwork:	6th-10th August 2018
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NCCES Curatorial Officer:	James Albone
NCCES CNF No:	43021
Project Officer:	Linzi Everett
Client/Funding Body:	Conclomeg Construction Ltd.

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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.

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Date: September 2018
Approved By: John Craven
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Date: October 2018

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation, consisting of the excavation of two 5m x 3m trenches, was carried out on the site of a former 19th century Baptist burial ground at Croft Lane, Diss, Norfolk, at the pre-planning application stage.

The combined program of documentary research, trial trench evaluation and recording of extant memorials, despite not fully investigating or exhuming any single burial, suggests that the burial ground at Croft Lane is dense with burials from a depth of at least 0.6m below existing ground-level and in a state of good preservation overall. Individual graves are likely to contain complete skeletal remains and a range of surviving structural remains, coffins and their fittings and possibly textile material. A suggested low end estimate for the number of individuals buried on the site, over a period from c.1790 to c.1890, is 100-120 but could potentially be considerably higher.

1. Introduction

An archaeological trial trench investigation was carried out by Suffolk Archaeology CIC (SACIC) on the former Baptist burial ground, Croft Lane, Diss, Norfolk, as the first stage in a potential Programme Of Archaeological Mitigatory Work (POAMW) which is expected to be imposed by condition on any future planning application for a proposed residential development of the site, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). A previous application for the site (2013/1138) was granted consent with such a condition but has now expired.

The latest recommendation for the condition was made by the archaeological adviser to the local planning authority (South Norfolk District Council (SNDC)), James Albone of Norfolk County Council Environment Service (NCCES). The requirements of the POAMW were detailed in an NCCES Brief (dated 26/03/2018) and, in summary, required an initial trial trench investigation of the site to establish the density, depth and preservation of burials so that the a decision could be made concerning the extent of any further mitigatory archaeological work required should planning consent be granted.

The archaeological potential for the site was described in the Brief as follows:

'The proposed development area lies on the site of a former Baptist burial ground. A Baptist meeting-house was established in Diss in 1789 and it seems likely that it lay adjacent to the Croft Lane burial ground. This eighteenth century chapel was replaced by the present Baptist chapel on Denmark Street in 1859. A separate Baptist Tabernacle was also established in Diss parish in 1822.

The period of operation of the burial ground at Croft Lane is uncertain, but it is likely to have been established at the same time as the meeting-house in the late 1780s. Many of the surviving memorials at the burial ground were moved to the boundary of the site in 1968. Those still present and legible in 2006 exhibited a date range of 1810 to 1890, suggesting that the burial ground remained in use after the present chapel on Denmark Street opened. The date of the last interments at Croft Lane is not known. Surviving memorials have been relocated to the present chapel.

The site of the former burial ground has previously been subject to archaeological investigations in an attempt to establish the extent of the burials at the site. A ground-penetrating radar survey was undertaken in 2010. This was followed in 2012 by a trial

trench evaluation of limited extent which established that the ground-penetrating radar survey had not identified all of the graves present at the site. Although the trenching revealed surviving grave structures at a very shallow depth immediately beneath the turf layer, these were not investigated and no information was obtained about the density and depth of graves, the presence of surviving coffins/coffin fittings or the condition of human skeletal remains at the site..’ (Albone, 2018).

A Written Scheme of Investigation for the POAMW, including a Project Design for the initial trial trench investigation was prepared (Craven 2018) and approved by James Albone.

The research aims of the trial trench investigation were as follows:

- Assess the quality and extent of the sites archaeological resource so that an assessment of the proposed developments impact can be made and an informed mitigation strategy devised. In regards to this site the trial trenching will:
 - Include a program of desk-based research examining any relevant documentary material.
 - ‘Groundtruth’ the results of a previous ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey (Adam Power Associates, 2010).
 - Establish the density and depth of graves, the presence of grave structures, survival of coffins/coffin fittings and the condition of human skeletal remains.
 - Characterise the full archaeological sequence down to undisturbed natural deposits.
 - 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) and, although being a non-conformist cemetery, key questions for the archaeological study of post-medieval burial grounds as detailed in Guidance for Best-Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England. Second Edition (Mays 2017). Relevant questions in the latter guidance include:
 - What is the history of the burial ground?
 - What is the surface area and depth (and estimated volume in cubic metres) of burial deposits in the area impacted by the development?
 - How many burials are anticipated (based on historical records pertinent to the site)

- Did the burial ground extend (or contract) over time?
- What proportion of the original burial ground is within the area of impact?
- How badly disturbed is the burial ground by later developments?
- What is the likely condition of the burials (e.g. bone preservation, soft-tissue survival, presence of waterlogged deposits, survival of coffins, both lead and wooden)?
- What sort of material culture is expected to accompany the burials?
- Are some burials likely to have personal identifications and age and date of death from coffin plates or other means?
- What dates does the cemetery cover?
- What social / ethnic / religious groups did it cater for?
- How does it compare with other cemeteries that have been excavated locally, regionally and nationally?

As the fieldwork project progressed it became increasingly clear that the site was fully occupied by numerous intact and preserved burials and associated structures, and that it would be possible to answer many of the above questions without exhuming human remains. It was also apparent that the extent and condition of the cemetery would have serious implications for the proposed development due to a need for further archaeological mitigatory work and so, with the agreement of James Albone and the client, it was agreed to limit the scope of the fieldwork project at this stage to avoid unnecessary further disturbance.

All work was carried out in accordance with 'Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England', East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper No. 14. (Gurney 2003), Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region, 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 Archaeologists 2014a);
- Standard and Guidance Archaeological Excavation (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014b);
- Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The Morphe Project Managers' Guide (Historic England, 2015)

2. The site

2.1. Location and description

The development area comprises 0.037ha of disused ground within an area of 20th century housing estate forming the western part of modern Diss. It is bounded by housing to the north and east and by roads to the south and west. The site lies on the eastern frontage of Croft Lane (formerly Meetinghouse Lane) which is likely an ancient route whilst Croft Close to the south is a 20th century construction which is believed to have been built over the site of the former Croft Lane Baptist chapel building.

The site had recently cleared of scrub and bramble by the client since an onsite meeting in early July 2018. A substantial tree stump still lay in the northern part of the site and an existing tree lay close to the southern boundary. In addition to one previously observed gravestone the site clearance had exposed numerous other gravestones and burial furniture, demonstrating that that the site had not been wholly cleared.

The burial ground is demarcated by a rendered brick built wall, at times in partly ruinous condition. The section of dwarf wall that fronts Croft Lane, behind which lies the raised level ground of the cemetery, appears to have been topped by iron railings, now removed, and one pillar associated with the entrance to the burial ground survives.

2.2. Geology and topography

The site lies at a height of c.40m above Ordnance Datum on a natural south-facing slope which descends to the valley of the River Waveney, c.650m to the south. The site itself is flat with groundlevels being artificially raised by c.0.5m above the level of the adjacent road/pavement as the natural slope descends from the northern boundary.

The superficial geology of the site is described as Lowestoft Formation chalky till overlying chalk bedrock of the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation, Culver Chalk Formation and Portsdown Chalk Formation. (British Geological Survey website 2018).

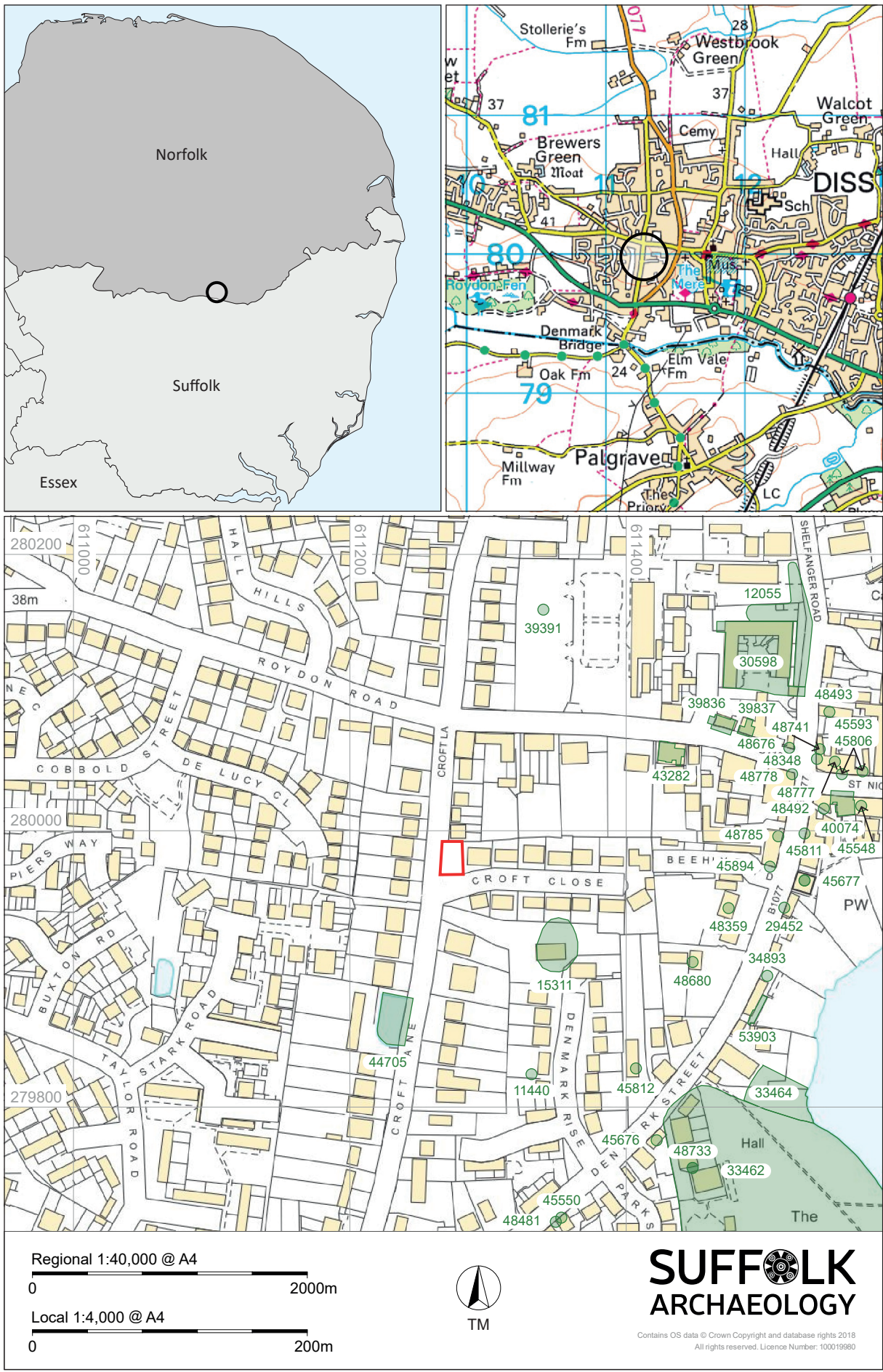


Figure 1. Site location (red) and HER data (green)

3. Archaeology and historical background

Linzi Everett and John Craven

Following the statement of potential and historical background of the site provided in the Brief (Albone 2018) an initial study of the site background was prepared for the WSI. This included examination of local newspaper references, of historic Ordnance Survey mapping held by SACIC, of the online National Heritage List for England (NHLE 2018) by SACIC, and of past phases of survey and fieldwork.

A more detailed study was subsequently undertaken prior to the fieldwork. This has principally comprised of a search of the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (HER) and a documentary report by independent specialist researcher Anthony Breen.

The following section reiterates and summarises the above research. A summary table of the HER search is included as Appendix 2 whilst the documentary report forms Appendix 3.

3.1. Historic Environment Record search

The HER search has identified 139 individual records within a 500m radius of the site, including find spots, monuments, buildings and archaeological events containing evidence of historical activity spanning from the prehistoric to post-medieval periods.

Prehistoric

Prehistoric evidence in the vicinity of the site is limited to a few stray finds, mostly flints but including a copper alloy Beaker pin found in a garden 160m southeast of the site (NHER 11440). However, this may be derived from imported soil.

Medieval

Medieval activity is mainly recorded as findspots within the core of the town, including an antiquarian reference to a hoard of gold and silver coins, and entries associated with timber framed buildings. In addition, NHER 11005 is the medieval church of St. Mary's which dates mainly to the early 14th century but which could have earlier origins. Documentary evidence suggests the site of St. Nicholas chapel (NHER 12056) 340m east of the site and a medieval moat (NHER 12055) 270m to the northeast. Medieval

activity is also associated with Fair Green (NHER 32774) 450m south of the proposed development area.

Post medieval

The majority of HER entries within the search area are from the post medieval period and relate to standing buildings within the area of the town centre or fronting pre-modern roads. Post medieval artefacts found within the local area include a token, buckle, a belt mount and spur. NHER 15311 records the site of a windmill marked on Faden's map of 1797 which had gone out of use by the late 19th century. An artificial reservoir known as the Liquor Pit (NHER 50261) lies 100m south of the proposed development area. This was built sometime before the mid-19th century and supplied water to various houses in the town and a brewery, via a series of pipes.

The burial ground itself is recorded as entry as NHER 42856 and is described as follows:

'A 19th century Baptist burial ground surrounded by brick walls. The gravestones were rearranged in 1968, and some are now in a fragmentary state....Brick walls are rear (east) and south up to 2m high. On west against road, two gate piers in dangerous condition flank an entrance in what was a row of iron railings, long removed, on a dwarf wall. Gravestones removed to edges in 1968, roughly stacked against walls, now fragmentary. Date range where visible 1810-1890. Some are of good quality. One hogback also by walls. One flat stone still in situ. House on south demolished in mid-20th century for access to Croft Close.'

The entry notes there was a Baptist church attached to the burial ground and that Croft Lane is shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey six inch map as Meeting House Lane (see section 3.3. below). It also notes that a ground penetrating radar survey of the burial ground in 2010 identified a number of areas where graves were *'likely to be present and that excavation of two trial trenches in 2012 recorded the presence of a brick vault, the bases of two memorials, and at least two unmarked graves'*, together with *'a brick wall of unknown function... recorded along the entire western side of the western trench. This wall was cut by one of the graves and may be an early feature of the cemetery'* (see section 3.4. below).

3.2. Documentary Study

The documentary study by Anthony Breen (Appendix 4) has looked at relevant documentary sources in order to better understand the historical context of the Baptist burial ground and to collate relevant details about its form, use and active life. It should be noted that no response was received from Diss Baptist Church to a request made by SACIC for information about/access to any records held.

Although details about the Croft Lane burial ground and its associated Meeting House are scant the documentary study has confirmed their basic history, beginning with the construction of the Croft Lane Meeting House in February 1789 and the issuance of a certificate in June 1789, signed by the first pastor Charles Farmery, who had begun to preach in Diss the previous year. In 1798 the Meeting House was enlarged and by the mid-19th century could accommodate 300.

In 1821/1822 the pastor William Ward founded another church, the Tabernacle, in Diss taking with him a majority of his congregation. However he and his family were eventually buried in Croft Lane. By the 1850's the Croft Lane Meeting House was *'old, dilapidated and somewhat dangerous'* and the new chapel in Denmark Street was opened on 20 March 1860. Burials continued at Croft lane until c.1890 but it is unclear when the Meeting House was finally demolished.

The study suggests that the Meeting House and burial ground did not just serve Diss but also the wider area of south Norfolk and north Suffolk. The study also highlights the fact that consecration of burial grounds is an Anglican rite and it should not be assumed that Baptists shared the belief that burial should take place in a sacred, consecrated place.

The study indicates that no list of burials at Croft Lane exists and that such a record was unlikely to have existed. As such there is no firm information as to the number of individuals who may have been interred in the burial ground but other records serve to give some idea of the size of the congregation. Apart from the reference to the chapel accommodating 300 there is an 1837 list of births, 96 in total across c.40 families from 1811-1836, and an 1857 list of baptisms which details 103 families and 298 children in a period covering 1780-1834. In 2011, a number of gravestones were moved from the site to the Baptist chapel in Denmark Street, having suffered from vandalism and weather erosion. A list was prepared which records the names or initials on the gravestones which

were moved, representing forty buried individuals, but does not give any further information on any memorials left at Croft Lane. If the dates transcribed to the list from the gravestones are accurate the earliest burial was in 1804 and the latest 1888 which tallies well with the known dates of the operation of the burial ground.

3.3. Historic mapping

The documentary search by Breen (Appendix 3) states that the 1838 Diss tithe map and apportionment shows the site of the chapel and describes it as a Baptist Church and Burial ground. Later 19th/early 20th century Ordnance Survey mapping held by SACIC (Figs 2-4) show the burial ground as being bounded to north and south by buildings on Croft Lane, which was called Meetinghouse Lane until at least 1905. The adjacent buildings to the north and south appear to be residential, the latter due to the fact they survive from 1885 to at least 1927 and seem unlikely to be the Meeting House. The southern building was demolished sometime after 1927 and its position is now crossed by Croft Close.

The mid-19th century Diss Baptist Chapel or Church, which replaced the Croft Lane meeting-house or chapel, is shown on all three maps to the east at Denmark Street. Also shown off Denmark Street to the southeast is a Tabernacle, now Denmark Street Gospel Hall, which is assumed to be that established in 1822. The First Edition map labels the small plot to its north as a burial ground. The 'Liquor Pit' is shown on all three maps on the western side of Croft lane to the south.

At this point it is worth noting that the National Heritage List for England (<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list>) gives a listed building record (Denmark Street Hall, 1049772,) as being '*a late 18th century former Baptist Chapel, founded in 1789 by Charles Farmery. The chapel is of one storey and is timber framed and weatherboarded*'. This entry relates to the Denmark Street Gospel Hall to the southeast, formerly the 1822 Tabernacle and burial ground, and it would appear that this description has erroneously used information about the date and founder of the Croft Lane Meeting House.

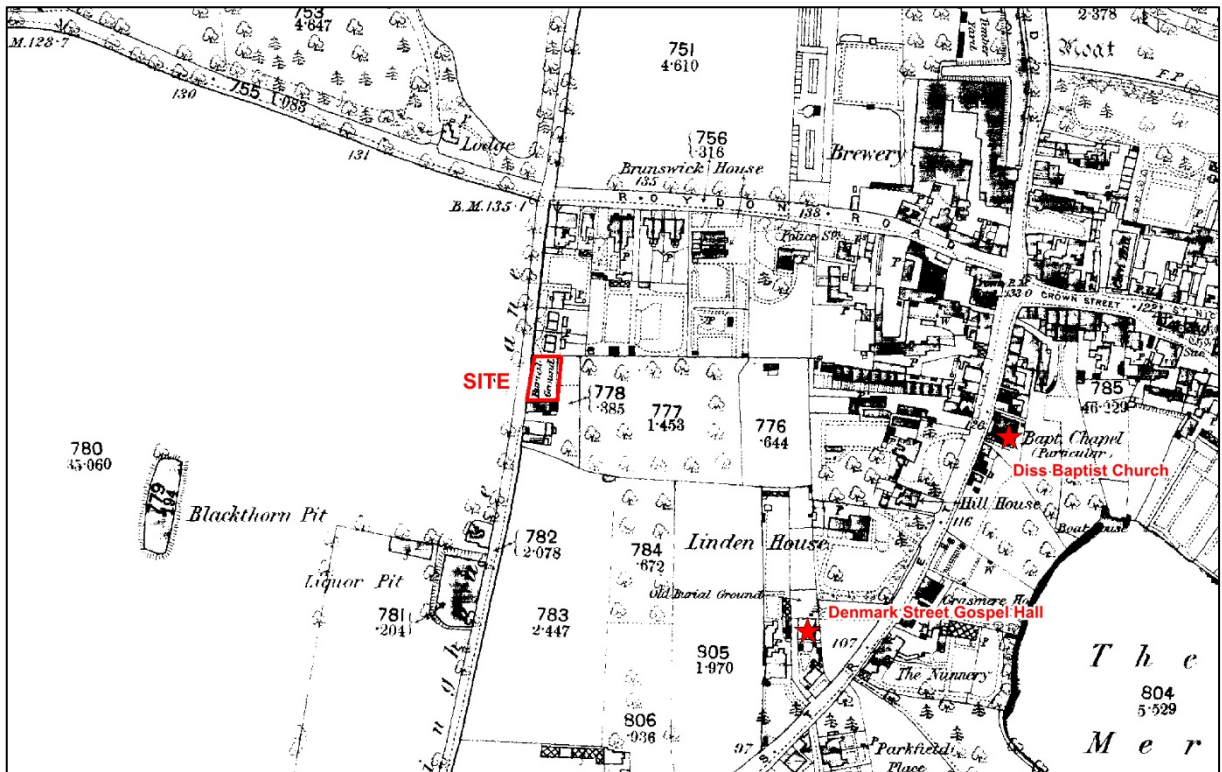


Figure 2. Site as shown on First Edition Ordnance Survey, 1885

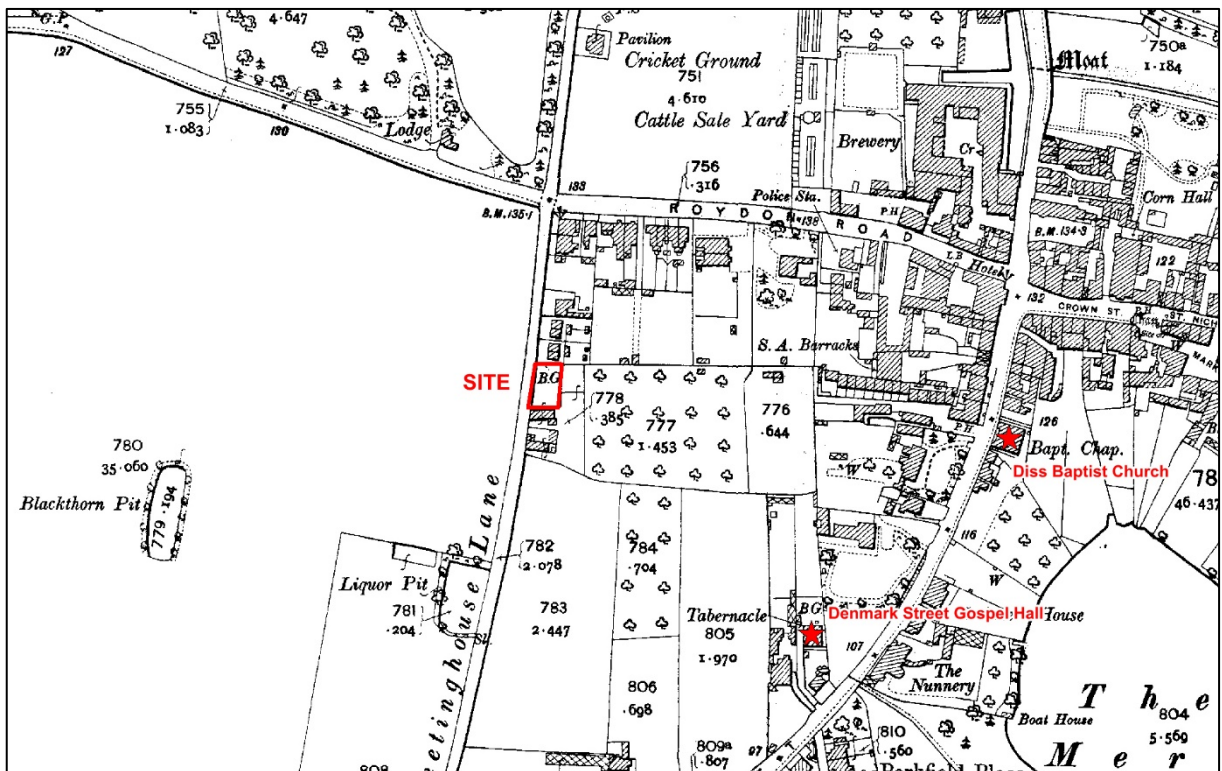


Figure 3. Site as shown on Second Edition Ordnance Survey, 1905

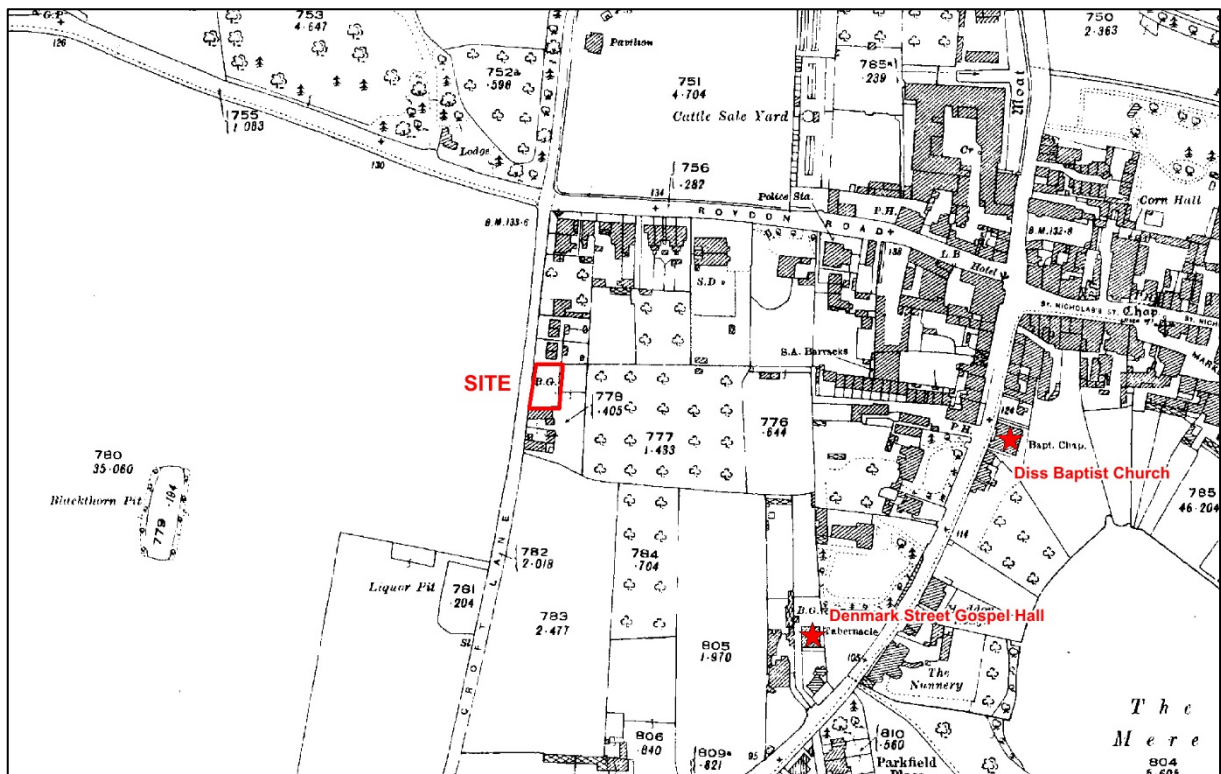


Figure 4. Site as shown on Third Edition Ordnance Survey, 1927

3.4. Previous survey and fieldwork

Previous archaeological investigations of the site have been carried out to try to establish the extent of burials. In 2010, a ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey was undertaken by Adam Power Associates, a local civil engineering company. A plan of results (Fig. 5), all that is held on the Norfolk Historic Environment Record, indicated the position of probable graves in relation to development proposals at the time.

This was followed by limited evaluation of the site in 2012 by Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd. (Shane & Fell 2012) The trenching identified grave structures immediately beneath the turf and demonstrated that the GPR had failed to identify all the graves present within the former burial ground. This phase of fieldwork did not extend much below the topsoil layer and therefore did not provide any information concerning the depth and density of graves, nor about the condition of human skeletal remains and any associated coffins or coffin fittings.

Unfortunately neither report included a survey of visible features existing above ground at the time.

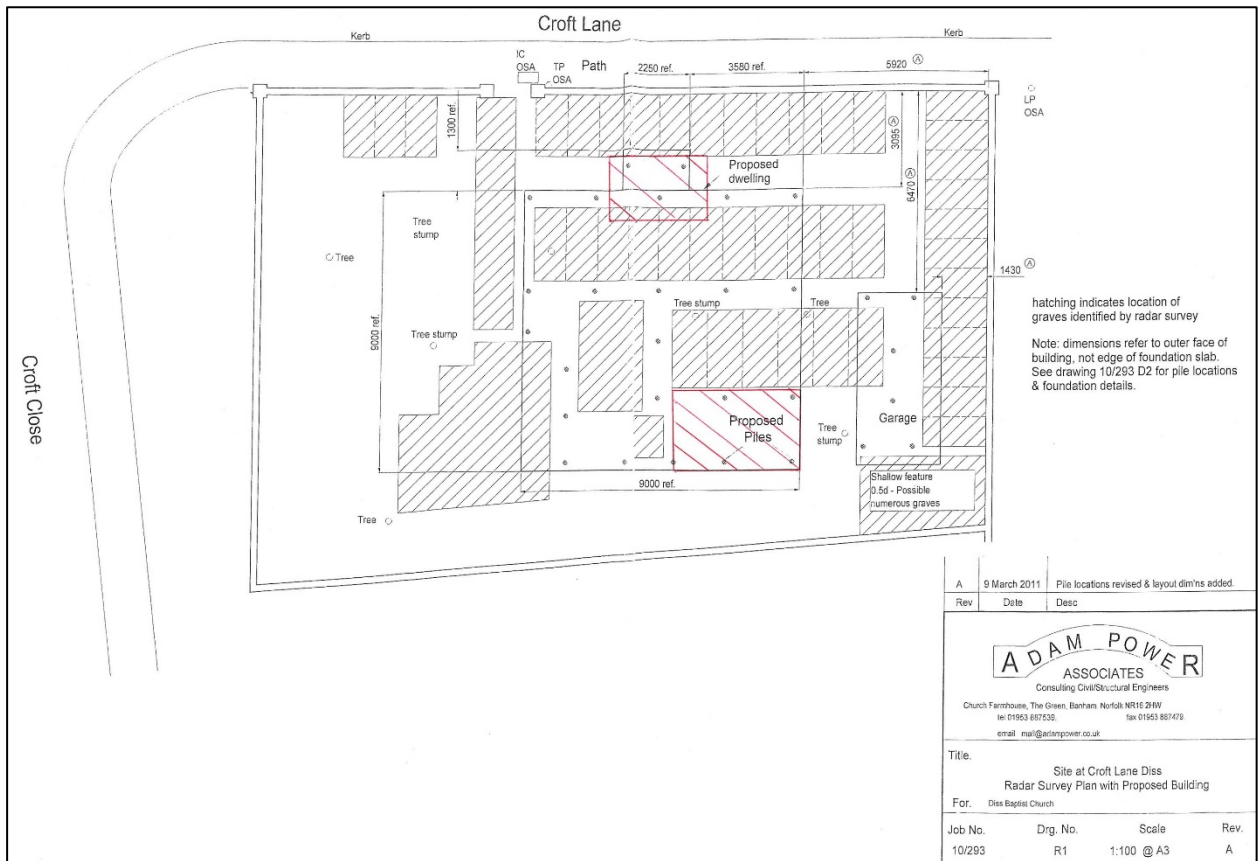


Figure 5. GPR survey plan by Adam Power Associates (north to right)

4. Methodology

Prior to commencement of fieldwork the site was secured and screened by the client, and a Ministry of Justice license obtained for the exhumation of human remains.

The two 5m x 3m trenches were marked out using a Global Positioning System (Leica GPS) in locations as set out in the WSI and approved by NCCES. They were excavated using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a 1m wide toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of an archaeologist.

Trenches were stripped down through mixed soil deposits to a level where structures or grave cuts could be identified. Trenches were subsequently cleaned and excavated further by hand. Selected graves were investigated to a point where identifiable human remains were visible. At no point were any human remains or associated material exhumed.

Contextual information was recorded in a unique continuous numbering system on SACIC pro-forma context sheets under the HER code ENF 144814.

Plans and sections drawings were made on A3 sheets of plastic drafting film at a scale of 1:20. A photographic record comprising high resolution digital shots was maintained throughout the evaluation. Monochrome shots were also taken of features using an SLR camera. On completion of recording each trench was backfilled by machine.

Gravestones encountered on surface and during excavation were numbered separately, planned by GPS, photographed and recorded including a transcript, where possible, of any inscription.

Site data has been input onto a SACIC MS Access database and recorded using the Norfolk County HER code ENF 144814. An OASIS form has been completed for the project (reference no. suffolka1-322709, Appendix 4) and a digital copy of the report submitted for inclusion on the Archaeology Data Service database (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>). The site archive will be kept at the SACIC office in Needham Market until it is deposited with the Norfolk Museums Service.

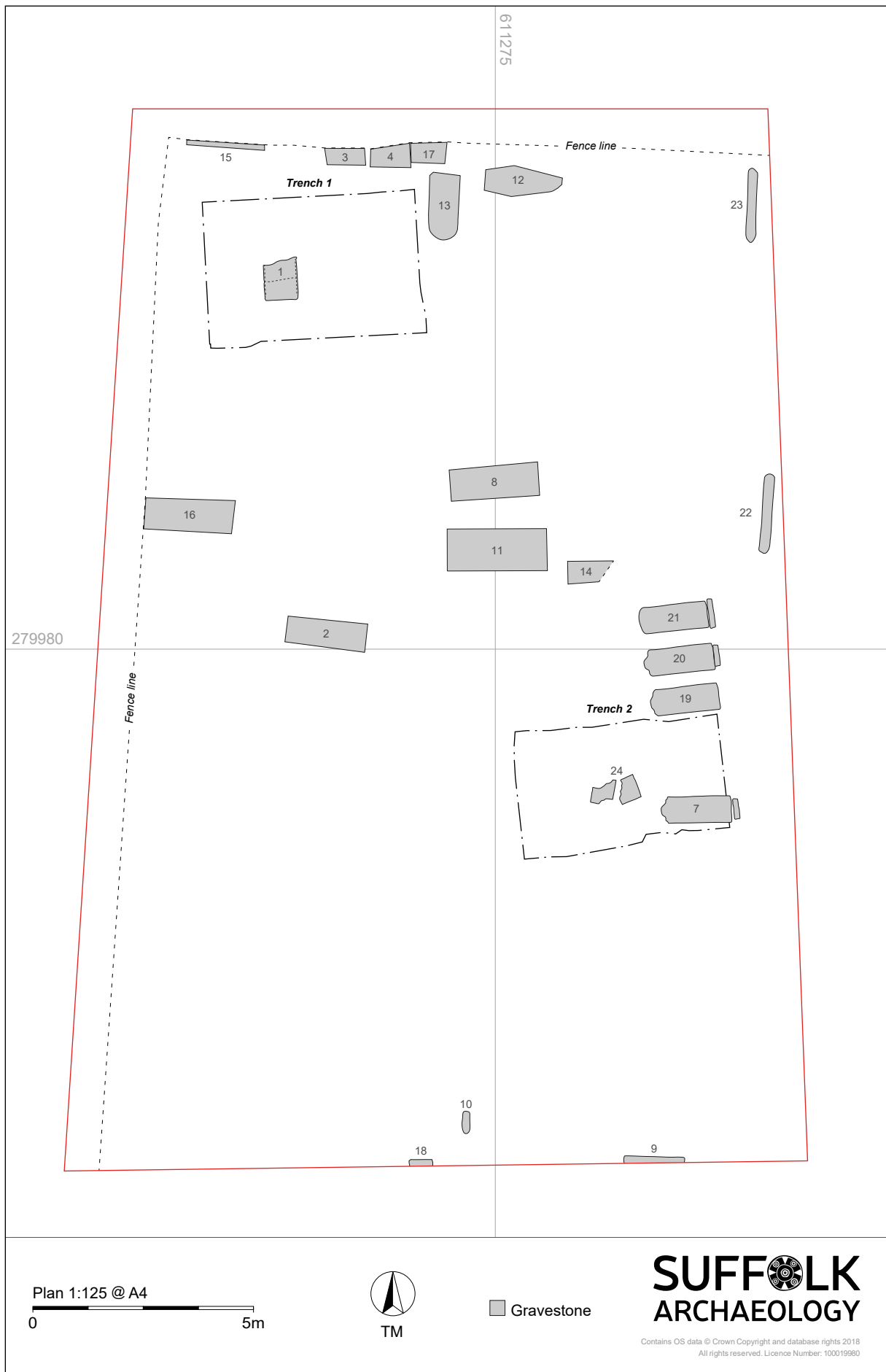


Figure 6. Trench plan and surface gravestones

5. Results

5.1. Trench 1

(Fig. 7)

Immediately below the turf layer, a rectangular arrangement of unbonded bricks, 0015, was revealed (Plate 1). It is possible that it was the base for a standing monument such as an altar tomb or chest tomb, and mortar on the upper surface of the exposed bricks suggests a slab once laid across it. At the western end, a stepped mortar construction with fragments of slate slab material likely to represent packing, suggested the former presence of an upright marker, or headstone, at the west end of the grave (Plate 2). The rectangular plot defined by the bricks measured 2.4m long, including the likely headstone structure, and 1.1m wide and was filled by 0016. This comprised poorly defined layers of mixed yellowish brown gravelly sand with some clay inclusion and contained occasional fragments of 19th century glazed white china and clay pipe stems. A small area of this fill was removed from the eastern end of the plot to a depth of 1.3m below the present ground level, at which point, a stone slab was encountered. It is likely that this seals one or more burials.



Plate 1. Brick feature 0015. Looking west.
0.4m scale



Plate 2. Stone and mortar likely to be associated with a former headstone at the west end of 0015. Looking south, 0.4m scale

Within the topsoil layer to the north of this feature, a gravestone (1 – see section 5.4) was exposed (Plate 3). This was laying face down and was complete, but for some damage to the back and with a single, old break centrally along its latitudinal plane. The stone had bevelled sides and well finished ends, suggesting that it had originally been wall mounted, or attached to the end of a standing altar tomb. The inscription was relatively sharp and unworn and remnants of blue and red paint survived in letters towards the bottom of the stone (Plate 4).



Plate 3. Memorial stone of Elizabeth Mines, as found in situ. Looking north, 0.4m scale

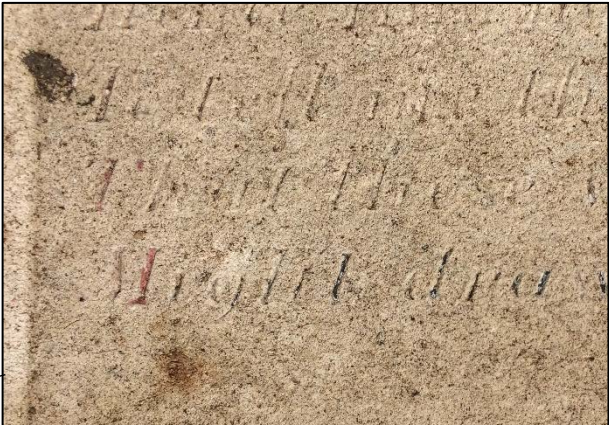
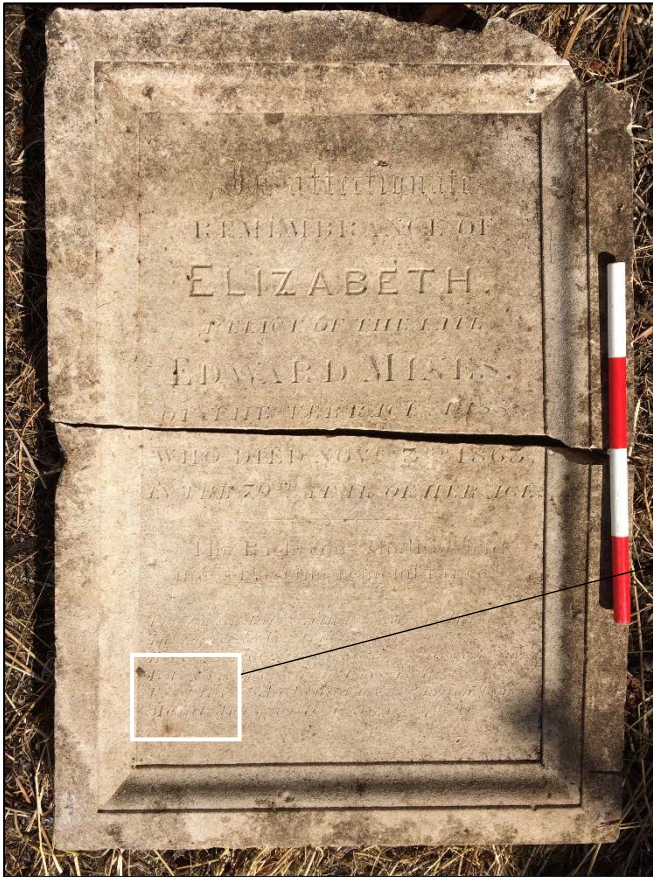


Plate 4. Memorial stone of Elizabeth Mines with a close-up showing remnants of red paint in the first letters of the sentence and blue in the main text. 0.4m scale

Further stripping removed the remaining topsoil from the trench which revealed remains of a brick structure or building (0006) comprising perpendicular walls running north-south c.1.1m across the width of the trench and east-west immediately adjacent to the north edge of grave structure 0015 (Plate 10). This was constructed of lime mortared, soft red, frogless bricks, measured 0.32m wide and survived three courses high. Both the north-south and east-west sections had been truncated to allow for the course of a ceramic pipe or field drain which ran west-east at a depth of 0.4m from the western trench edge, immediately adjacent to the northern edge of the west-east wall before turning to the south-east across the wall and into the eastern edge of the trench.

The north eastern corner of the trench was excavated through what appeared to be a mixed layer of pale yellowish brown sand with clay patches and occasional fragments of ceramic building material (CBM). At a depth of between 0.7m and 0.1m, it was possible to discern a feature cut, 0010, in the base of the northwest corner of the trench. This was infilled by 0004 (which was under or cut by wall 0006) and 0011.

In the north east corner of the trench four stone slabs were exposed or partially exposed at a depth of c.1m. A hollow sound when tapped suggested these covered a void and hand cleaning around the edges of the stones defined the edge of a feature, 0007. This was scraped back to reveal a brick structure on which the slabs were laid. Once it was confirmed that the slabs were positioned on a secure base, they were briefly lifted to establish and characterise what lay beneath. This revealed two adjacent rectangular brick built shafts, aligned north - south and made from soft red, frogless bricks bonded with lime mortar laid in an English bond. A coffin had been placed in each shaft and whilst no surviving wood from the sides or lid of either coffin was visible, a lead lining was present in each. In the western shaft, 0036, the lead coffin contained a dark brown liquid within which no skeletal remains or coffin furniture were visible. It was orientated with the head to the south. In the case of the eastern shaft 0037, the head was at the northern end of the shaft and the lead coffin was damp but it was possible to make out leg bones, possible textile and coffin plates. A probe placed down the side of each coffin lining hit a solid base at a depth of c.0.5m. At ground level directly above these graves, two memorial stones likely to be associated with these burials are assigned to William Roper (**3** above 0036; d.1840) and his widow Amy (**4** above 0037; d.1842).



Plate 5. Lead coffin visible in the southern end of in brick shaft 0036. Looking north.
1m scale



Plate 6. Looking north into brick shaft 0036



Plate 7. Lead coffin visible in the southern end of in brick shaft 0037 with a close-up of a decorative coffin plate. Looking north.
1m scale



Plate 8. Looking north into brick shaft 0037, with a further coffin plate visible

The area west of 0006 was excavated through 0002, a layer with frequent CBM and mortar suggestive of a phase of demolition, which sealed 0004 and 0011, the fills of pit 0010. Sealed by this was 0013, a grey brown silty sand with orangey brown gravelly sand patches which was very wet and had the appearance of a water-washed deposit. At a depth of 1.4m, the tapering end of an east-west orientated wooden coffin was partially exposed in the western edge of the trench (0014; Plate 9). This was filled with the surrounding silty sand, 0013 and the right tibia could be seen in the coffin. No evidence of a coffin lid had been seen during the machining but the vertical sides of the coffin survived as soft, waterlogged wood. As this burial was encountered beyond a safe working depth, it was photographed and planned, but no more detailed recording was carried out.



Plate 9. Burial 0014 with preserved wood and right tibia visible.
Looking north, 1m scale

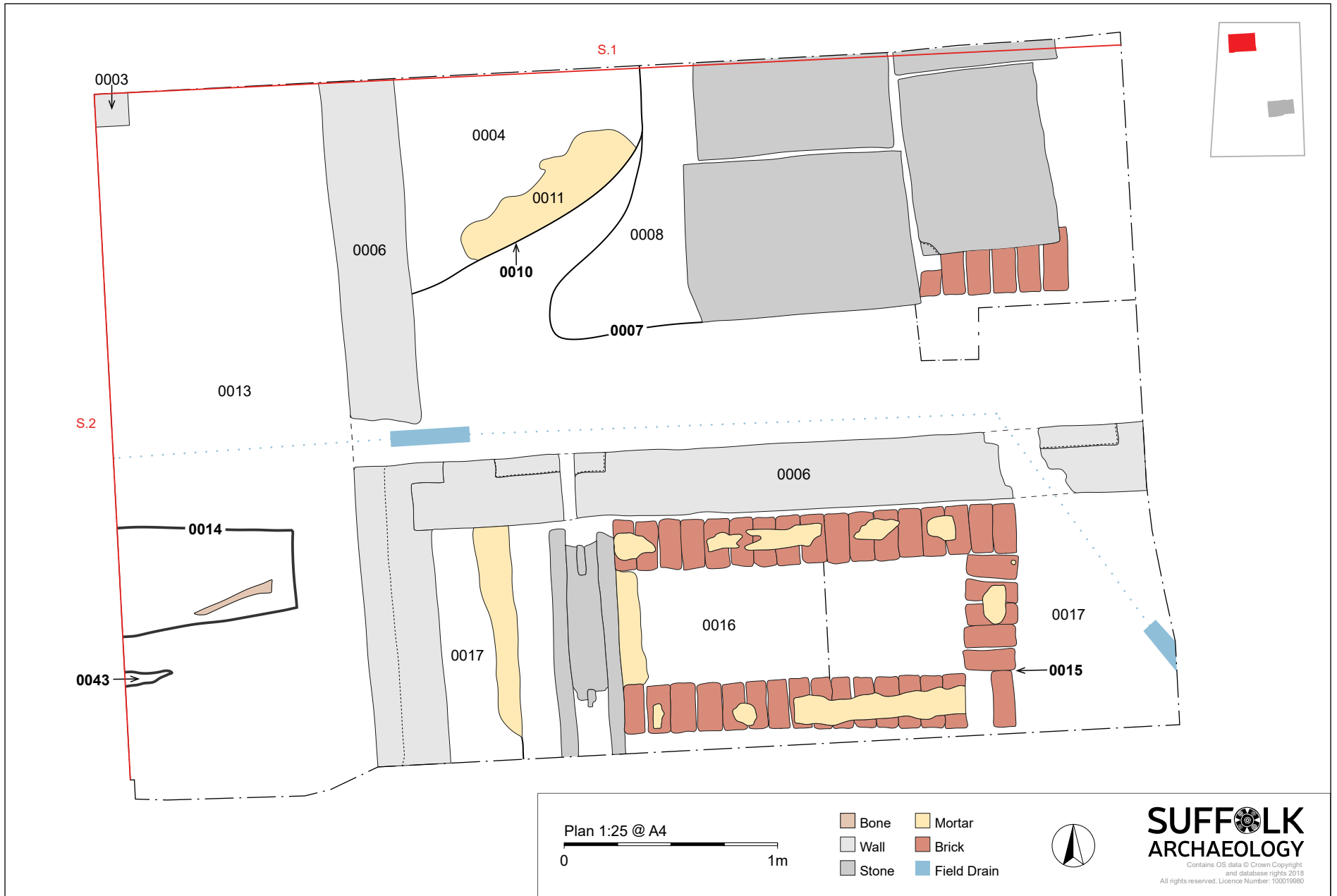


Figure 7. Plan of Trench 1



Plate 10. Trench 1, looking west. Brick feature 0015 is against the southern edge of the trench, wall 0006 cuts through the centre. 1m scales



Plate 11. West to east section of Trench 1.
Looking north, 1m scales

5.2. Trench 2

(Fig. 8)

One gravestone (7) was recorded within the area of Trench 2 (Figure 5; Plate 12). This was located in the southeast corner of the trench directly in front of what appeared to be packing stones which along with the shaped western end of the stone suggested it was an upright headstone laid flat and face down at some point. Prior to machining, the stone was lifted and moved directly west, leaning it against the wall of the burial ground where it was possible to read the names of three individuals. Immediately north of Trench 2 and on the same alignment, three similar examples (19-21) were photographed and recorded, but left in situ (Plate 13).



Plate 12. Headstone 7 within the area of Trench 2. Looking east. 0.4m scale



Plate 13. Three formally upright gravestones (19-21) north of Trench 2. Looking south, 1m scale

Also on the surface were three adjoining fragments of a broken stone slab (24) which were planned, photographed and lifted. Neither side was worked in any way. During excavation of the topsoil, two joining fragments of an incomplete, broken gravestone (5) were recovered from the southwest corner of the trench. Both fragments were face down and some distance apart, at a depth of c.0.35m below the ground level. The breaks appeared old and abraded and the inscription was worn.

The trench was stripped down to a level at which individual grave cuts could be identified within the subsoil or natural subsoil (Plate. 16). At a depth of 0.6m, a grave was clearly defined against the northern side of the trench, cutting subsoil layer 0041. 0028 measured 2.1m long and was coffin shaped in plan, its widest point measuring c.0.6m. The western end of this grave cut was excavated in order to establish the depth and preservation of the burial it was assumed to contain. At a depth of 1.1m, a well preserved cranium and clavicle were revealed, around which remnants of ironwork were forming the tapered head end of a coffin (Plate 14).



Plate 14. Cranium and iron coffin remnants in grave 0028. Looking west, 0.4m scale

Elsewhere, the trench was stripped of a further 0.15m of overburden to better define individual grave cuts. A total of eight further full or partial grave cuts were identified in the base of the trench, cutting the assumed natural subsoil. 0034 was mostly visible in the northern trench section but was partially visible in plan against the trench edge. It was immediately adjacent to 0028 but the relationship between the two features was not clear. Graves 0022 and 0024 were partially exposed along the eastern edge of the site and both cuts were visible in section from immediately below the topsoil. It is possible that 0022 is associated with the headstone (7) lifted from the surface of the trench which was located directly above it.

Grave cut 0030 was initially targeted for full excavation to establish depth and

preservation but this was halted when it became clear that it had been recut to insert an infant burial. 0038 measured 1m long and up to 0.38m wide and contained remnants of iron coffin furniture or iron lining of a coffin approximately 0.2m wide (Plate 15). The only bone surviving appeared to be some cranial fragments at the western end. A further infant burial, 0018, was recorded in the southwest corner of the trench, but this did not appear to be cut into an existing burial. The cranium was partially visible at the stripped level in the western end of this cut.



Plate 15. Grave cut 0036 cut by infant burial 0038. Looking south, 1m scale



Plate 16. Trench 2, full excavation. Looking north, 1m scale



Figure 8. Plan of Trench 2



Plate 17. West to east section of Trench 2. Looking north, 1m scale



Plate 18. North to south section of Trench 2. Looking east, 1m scale

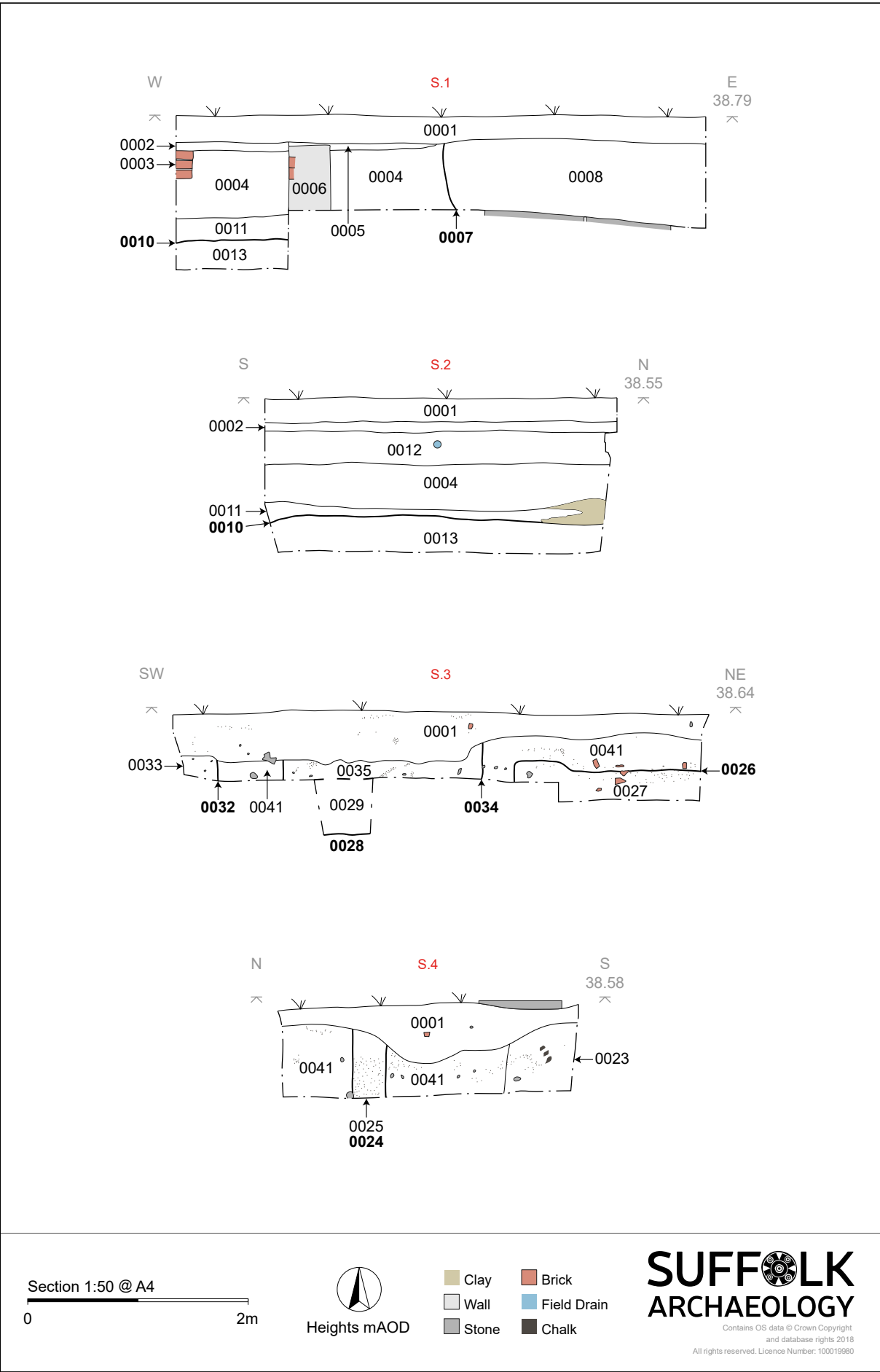


Figure 9. Sections from Trenches 1 and 2

5.3. Boundary wall

The rendered brick-built boundary walls enclosing the site appear to be contemporary with the burial ground. To north, east and south the walls are up to 2m high. To the west a fourth dwarf wall, in partly ruinous condition and topped by the stubs of former iron railings, runs along the road frontage to a height of c.1m, behind which lies the raised level ground of the cemetery. One pillar survives of a former access gate.

The locally made bricks are frog stamped with 'BETTS DISS'. The online Norfolk Historic Environment Record (www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk) has several records concerning William Betts, a local industrialist and proprietor of the Scole Railway (NHER13579) which operated from 1850 to 1885. The railway was used to transfer market garden produce from his estate and connected his two brickworks. One of these lay adjacent to Diss railway station (NHER 7950) and operated from 1853-1886 until his death in 1886 (<http://www.whatthevictorianshrewaway.com/brickworks-and-recycling>), the second (NHER 32917) lay to the east of Diss near Scole.



Plate 19. Front wall, showing the pillar from the north side of the access point. Looking NE, 0.4m scale



Plate 20. Section through the front wall, showing remnants of former iron railings. Looking NE, 0.4m scale

5.4. Memorial stones

Whilst many of the standing memorials from this burial ground, relating to forty individuals, are known to have been moved to the nearby Denmark Street Baptist chapel in 2011, the clearance of the site vegetation by the client revealed a further 23 memorial stones which were visible above ground-level, with a 24th being recovered during the topsoil strip in Trench 1.

These stones were mapped (Figure 5), catalogued and subjected to basic photographic recording and transcription where possible. The results are presented below and the following points have been noted.

- **1.** In the 1838 tithe apportionment the site is described as a Baptist Church and Burial ground, then in the ownership of the trustee Mr Edward Mines (Appendix 4).
- **3.** The documentary study describes a William Roper as a London surgeon, whose daughter Jane married pastor Jonathan Preston Lewis in 1841.
- **6.** This stone had recently moved to the southern edge of the site, its location was not recorded as it was not *in situ*.
- **8.** 'Ward' is the stonemasons name carved onto the memorial slab. Census returns for 1851-1891 record a John Ward, stonemason in Diss and Kelly's Directory for Cambridgeshire, Norfolk & Suffolk, 1883, lists him in Denmark Street, Diss.

1

In affectionate
REMEMBRANCE OF
ELIZABETH
RELICT OF THE LATE
EDWARD MINES
OF THE TERRACE, DISS
WHO DIED NOV^R 3RD 1863
IN THE 79TH YEAR OF HER AGE

"The Righteous shall be had
in everlasting remembrance."

*"THEY made this earth too fair a [illegible]
THEY gave to life too sweet a face?
Hence [? ?] passed through [?]
To tell me this was not [?] rest
That those who bound me too much here
Might draw me to a higher place"*



2

IN MEMORY OF
HARRIETT
the beloved Wife of
HENRY MARJORAM
WHITESMITH
Of this Parish
WHO DIED DEC 27
1868
AGED 53 YEARS



3

Sacred

TO THE MEMORY OF
WILLIAM ROPER Esq.
Late of Wortham
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
DEC 18TH 1840
AGE 69 YEARS



4

ALSO OF
AMY *RELICT OF*
WILLIAM ROPER
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
DECEMBER 16TH 1842
IN THE 59TH YEAR
OF HER AGE



5

Unde[r]

this Stone [illegible- 'is deposited'?)

the Re[mains] of

ELIZABETH

[illegible]

[illegible]



6

E.M.E.
DIED JUNE 15TH
1861
AGED 5 MONTHS

(not in situ)



7

[Illegible]
[Illegible]
LOUISA ELIZ^A. READ
[Illegible]
[Illegible]
JOSEPH CLARKE READ
[Illegible]
[Illegible]
ELIZA SUSANNA READ
[Illegible] JUNE [?] 1833
[Illegible]



8

WARD DISS [*makers mark?*]

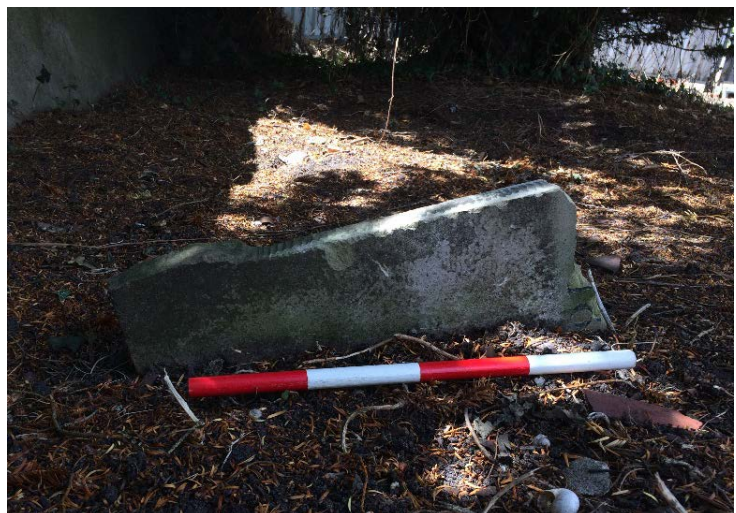


9

MARY ANN WOMACK



10



11



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14



15



16



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24



6. Discussion

Linzi Everett and John Craven

6.1. History and date of the burial ground

The history of the burial ground has been reasonably established through documentary research and examination of visible memorials, although details and sources are scant or incomplete. The findings of this work are in keeping with that originally outlined in the Brief.

A Baptist Meeting House was first opened on Croft Lane in 1789 and enlarged in 1798. Whether the burial ground was established at the same date is uncertain but recorded memorials indicate it was in use from at least 1804 to 1888. In 1821/1822 the congregation was split, with a new Tabernacle being established to the southeast and which by 1885 is shown as having its own burial ground. The impact this may have had on the usage of the Croft Lane burial ground is uncertain.

The final closure of both Meeting House and burial ground is uncertain. The former is noted as being in poor condition in the 1850's and so was probably totally replaced by the new Chapel on Denmark Street in 1860. By 1885 the likely site of the Meeting House appears to be occupied by housing which existed into the 1920's and the last known burial was in 1888.

The current appearance of the site suggests that it has been left unused, and in recent years neglected, since the final burials in the late 19th century.

6.2. Extent of the burial ground

The current extent of the burial ground is shown unchanged on late 19th century mapping and can be dated to the mid-19th century at the earliest by the manufacturer's stamps on the bricks of the enclosing walls. This strongly suggests that, while it may have originated from a smaller plot in the late 18th century (see 6.6. below), the current boundary of the burial ground represents its maximum extent and that inhumations will not be present beyond its walls.

6.3. Memorials

Despite the graveyards abandonment in recent years, and known partial clearance of memorials in 2011, the project was able to plot and record a series of gravestones of varying types and in various states (upright, laid flat face up/ face down etc.). It seems likely that many of the surviving memorial stones may still be in or close to their original positions and so may still relate directly to interred individuals, including the buried stone of Elizabeth Mines.

There a few instances of memorials, either still onsite or being recorded as removed, that relate to names of the Baptist congregation recorded in birth lists from 1837 and 1857. These include pastor William Ward and family, pastor Nathaniel Tidd, Edward and Elizabeth Mines, and multiple individuals from several families such as Bayles, Bond, Brooks and Roper. There is potential therefore for some burials to be linked with named individuals, and possibly to living descendants only a few generations removed.

6.4. Condition and preservation of burials

The results of the trial trenching suggests that the burial ground at Croft Lane is dense with burials, beginning from a depth of c.0.6m below groundlevel which ranged from c.38.55m to 38.75m above Ordnance Datum (see Table 1 below). Earth-cut graves could be seen in section immediately below the topsoil and clearly in plan at 0.6m-0.7m deep (e.g. 0018 at 37.75m and 0028 at 38.14m), and the skeletal remains of two infants were encountered at approximately this depth (which may reflect the fact that it would have been more difficult to dig a small grave to the same depth as a larger grave cut). Elsewhere human remains were identified below groundlevel at depths of 1.1m (adult cranium 0028), c.1.2m (in lead coffins in shafts 0036 and 0037) and 1.4m (0014).

Grave orientation was predominantly east-west apart from the north-south aligned brick shafts 0036 and 0037. This unusual orientation may be a reflection of Baptist rites being less rigid than established Anglican, and may in part be due to their position on the site boundary.

The observed human skeletal remains were, in each case, in very different conditions; in lead-lined coffins in brick vaults 0036 and 0037, in a timber coffin in an earth-cut grave through waterlogged deposits by the roadside (0014) and in coffins with iron fittings in

earth-cut graves in the centre of the burial ground (0018, 0028, 0030). Although no bone was exhumed at any point what was revealed appeared to be in a good state of preservation, if a little soft. In the infant burial 0038, which consisted of some cranial fragments, it is not clear to what extent the lack of other bone is down to the fragile nature of infant bones or the conditions for preservation within the coffin and/or grave fill.

Preservation of other materials was evident across the graves, despite the limited nature of the excavations, and all such was left *in situ*. Of particular note are the lead linings of two coffins in shafts 0036 and 0337 which appeared to contain possible textile and coffin plates. Evidence of a wooden coffin survived in grave 0014 and of iron coffin fittings in 0038.

Area	Feature	Level (Above Ordnance Datum)
Memorial stones	1	38.27m
	2	38.60m
	3	38.72m
	4	38.76m
	8	38.69m
	11	38.70m
	12	38.82m
	13	38.79m
	14	38.59m
	15	38.68m
	16	38.50m
	17	38.76m
	19	38.69m
Trench 1	Original ground level	c.38.5m (west) – c.38.75m (east)
	0006	38.55m
	0014 burial	37.15m
	0015 brickwork	38.53m
	Slab over 0036	37.90m
	Slab over 0037	37.85m
	0036 burial/coffin	c.37.65m
	0037 burial/coffin	c.37.60m
Trench 2	Original ground level	c.38.55m
	0018 cut	37.75m
	0020 cut	37.71m
	0028 cranium	37.52m
	0028 cut	38.14m
	0030 grave cut (top)	37.70m
	0038 burial	37.65m

Table 1. Site levels

6.5. Estimated number of burials

Due to limitations of the historical records it is difficult to state with any certainty the number of individuals interred in the burial ground. The study suggests that the Meeting House and burial ground did not just serve the Baptist community of Diss but also the wider area of south Norfolk and north Suffolk. Individuals buried here therefore may not

be restricted to residents of Diss.

The size of the congregation at any one time appears to have numbered in the hundreds, perhaps consisting of at least a 100 families over the first 50 year period. Based on this it is perhaps not too far-fetched to suggest to that there was a potential pool of 500-1000 individuals who could have been interred at Croft Lane although it has been established that at least one other burial ground was established by the Baptist community in Diss during the 19th century.

Positioning of memorial stones and the results of the previous geophysical survey suggest that the centre and northern part of the burial ground are likely to be wholly occupied by burials. However while the suggested position and orientation of possible graves in the geophysical survey by Adam Power Associates shows some similarity to the identified vaults in Trench 1 this survey has already been shown to be an inaccurate representation by the previous phase of evaluation (Shane and Fell 2012). The apparent absence of graves to the south may in fact be simply due to a lack of survey due to presence of trees.

Both the surviving grave markers and the east - west grave cuts in each trench suggest burials were broadly plotted in rows across the site, perhaps in part as suggested by the GPR survey. The majority of the grave cuts revealed were discrete, suggesting that they were well marked and respected by later burials. The lack of disarticulated bone and coffin furniture in the subsoil and grave fills also supports this and the relatively short duration of use for the burial ground, c.100 years, presumably reduced the likelihood that later burials will have disturbed existing graves. Where there was evidence of intercutting, this may have been deliberate such as the apparently deliberate insertion of infant burial 0038 into an earlier grave cut 0030. The relationship between 0028 and 0034 was not clear but any intercutting was slight and could represent a later associated burial such as a family member interred in an adjacent plot.

Based on removed and existing memorial slabs the absolute minimum of burials would appear to be 70. The four trenches to date equate to c.46sqm in total, or c.12.5% of the 0.37ha burial ground, and have identified twenty potential or established burials partially or wholly within the trenching. A simple calculation based on this density across the site, if full, suggests a figure of 120-150 burials and a very broad estimate of 1 burial per 1m

by 2m plot, densely ordered and spaced but respecting each other, would equate to c.180 burials.

These figures are assuming a single individual per grave or plot and so could be on the low side. The limited nature of the evaluation meant that it was not established at any point whether burials were stacked within grave cuts or vaults, apart from the infant burial 0038. In the brick shafts 0036 and 0037 probing established that a solid base lay below each lead liner but it is possible that in one or both cases, this could be a slab over an earlier burial shaft. However, this seems unlikely, given the probable association of the burials with the two named gravestones of single individuals above.

Taking all of the evidence above a suggested best guess but realistic low end figure for the number of burials on the site is in the region of 100-120, which allows for the size of the site, density of observed burials and known number of memorials with some potential for multiple internments in single graves. This does however suggest that only a small part of the Baptist congregation associated with the Croft Lane Meeting House was buried here.

6.6. Other features

The existing boundary wall dates to the mid/late 19th century as discussed above and likely represents the full and final extent of the graveyard.

Within Trench 1 the extent and purpose of brick wall structure 0006 is unclear. It clearly respects grave 0015, although it is uncertain which was constructed first, and cuts across pit 0010. Its north-south length is likely to relate directly to the wall recorded in the previous evaluation (Shane and Fell 2012) as 103, being of similar alignment, construction and depth. Wall 103 was cut by a burial and one possible explanation might be that this north-south wall, parallel to the road frontage is an earlier boundary for a once smaller graveyard.

The ceramic field drain or waterpipe which cut across the wall 0006 is an unexpected and unexplained feature, presumably post-dating the cemetery and so indicating a slight level of later disturbance. It may be associated with The Liquor Pit (NHER 50261), the mid-19th century artificial reservoir to the south which supplied water to parts of the town.

7. Conclusion

The combined documentary research, trial trench evaluation and recording of memorials, despite not fully investigating or exhuming any single burial, suggests that the cemetery at Croft Lane is dense with burials from a depth of at least 0.6m below existing ground-level. The burial ground is in a state of good preservation overall and individual graves are likely to contain well-preserved and complete skeletal remains and a range of surviving structural remains, coffins and their fittings, textile material and possibly even soft tissue if lead lined coffins survive fully sealed.

Although the Regional Research Framework for the Eastern Counties (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott 2011) does not specify any particular research aims with regard to post-medieval/Victorian grounds the site has clear potential, if deemed appropriate and fully investigated, to examine the nature of a non-conformist cemetery and for scientific and historical study of its Baptist population.

Any standard development of the site is likely to have a substantial impact on individual burials and the burial ground as a whole. The results of this report are intended to help inform the Local Planning Authority, its Archaeological Advisors NCCES and other interested parties such as the Client and Baptist community during the decision making process on any future planning application.

8. Archive deposition

The site archive, which consists of paper records and digital files only, will be kept at the SACIC office in Needham Market until it is deposited with the Norfolk Museums Service.

9. Acknowledgements

SACIC would like to thank Andy Robinson of Conclomeg Construction Ltd, for his assistance with the project; supply of plant, site security/screening and welfare facilities.

Fieldwork was carried out by Linzi Everett and Tara Schug. The report was written by Linzi Everett with contributions from John Craven and Anthony Breen (freelance). The report was edited by John Craven.

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Online resources

British Geological survey

www.bgs.ac.uk

Norfolk Historic Environment Record

www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk)

National Heritage List for England

<https://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list>

What the Victorians Threw Away

<http://www.whatthevictoriansthrewaway.com/brickworks-and-recycling>

Appendix 1. Context list

Context Number	Trench	Feature Type	Category	Feature Number	Description	Interpretation
0001		Topsoil	Deposit	0001	Dark brown sandy loam topsoil, uniform in both trenches	
0002	1	Subsoil		0002	Thin, mixed layer with frequent CBM and mortar suggestive of a demolition event	
0003	1	Wall		0003	Three courses of lime mortar bonded soft red brick visible in NW corner of Tr 1	Associated with 0006?
0004	1	Pit	Fill	0004	Mid brown clay sand, a bit gravelly, with occ CBM	
0005	1	Subsoil	Layer	0005	Thin layer of brick and mortar rubble, possibly same as 0002	
0006	1	Wall		0006	Perpendicular walls running north-south across the width of the trench and east-west immediately adjacent to the north edge of grave structure 0015. The wall was constructed of lime mortared, soft red, frogless bricks, measured 0.32m wide and survived three courses high. Both the north-south and east-west sections had been truncated to allow for the course of a ceramic pipe or field drain which ran west-east at a depth of 0.4m from the western trench edge, immediately adjacent to the northern edge of the west-east wall before turning to the south-east across the wall and into the eastern edge of the trench	Associated with 0003
0007	1	Grave	Cut	0007	Large rounded cut which covered much of the base of the NE corner of the trench. Contains two brick lined shafts, 0036 and 0037, each containing the remains of lead-lined coffin and sealed by limestone slabs 0009	Likely to be the grave of William and Amy Roper whose memorial slabs survive directly above at ground level
0008	1	Grave	Fill	0007	Mixed layer of pale yellowish brown sand with clay patches and occasional fragments of ceramic building material	
0009	1	Grave	Slabs	0007	Four limestone slabs visible in the base of Tr 1 and continuing north beyond the edge of site. Sealing 0036 and 0037	
0010	1	Pit	Cut	0010	Pit visible in plan against northern edge of the trench at a depth of 0.7-0.1m and visible in section within the western side of the trench	
0011	1	Pit	Fill	0010	Layer of mid bluey grey clay in the base of pit 0010	
0012	1	Subsoil	Layer	0012	Layer of building rubble (CBM and mortar) held in a mid brown silty sand matrix	Associated with demolition event-0003/0006?
0013	1	Subsoil	Deposit	0013	Grey brown silty sand with orangey brown gravelly sand patches which was very wet and had the appearance of a water-washed deposit	
0014	1	Grave	Cut	0014	E-W grave exposed within layer 0013. Visible as waterlogged wood coffin planks at the foot end of the grave within which the left tibia was visible. Grave cut not visible in section at any higher level	
0015	1	Grave	Cut	0015	E-W orientated rectangular grave defined by a rectangular arrangement of unbonded, soft red bricks. At the western end, a stepped mortar construction with fragments of slate slab material likely to represent packing, suggested the former presence of an upright marker, or headstone	
0016	1	Grave	Fill	0015	Poorly defined layers of mixed yellowish brown gravelly sand with some clay inclusion and contained occasional fragments of 19th century glazed white china and clay pipe stems. A	

Context Number	Trench	Feature Type	Category	Feature Number	Description	Interpretation
					stone slab likely sealing one or more burials was encountered underneath this fill where excavated at the eastern end of the grave	
0017	1	Subsoil	Deposit	0017	Pale-mid yellowish brown silty sand mixed with occasional patches of mid grey brown silty sand	
0018	2	Grave	Cut	0018	Small sub-rectangular grave in the SW corner of the trench. Not seen in plan at a higher level	Infant burial
0019	2	Grave	Fill	0018	Mid grey brown clay sand	
0020	2	Grave	Cut	0020	Broadly rectangular grave cut visible in the excavated base of Trench 2, continues beyond southern edge of site. Visible cutting subsoil layer 0041 in section	
0021	2	Grave	Fill	0020	Pale yellowish brown clay sand with chalk flecks mixed with patches of mid grey brown clay sand	
0022	2	Grave	Cut	0022	Rectangular grave cut partially exposed in the SE corner of the trench and visible cutting subsoil 0041 in section	Possibly associated with headstone laying flat on ground surface which was removed prior to excavation (Read family, 7 in report)
0023	2	Grave	Fill	0022	Pale yellowish brown clay sand with chalk flecks mixed with patches of mid grey brown clay sand	
0024	2	Grave	Cut	0024	Rectangular grave cut partially exposed in the eastern edge of the trench and visible cutting subsoil 0041 in section	
0025	2	Grave	Fill	0024	Pale yellowish brown clay sand with chalk flecks mixed with patches of mid grey brown clay sand	
0026	2	Grave	Cut	0026	Probable rectangular grave cut partially exposed in the north east corner of Trench 2, mainly visible cutting the subsoil in section.	Possibly associated with headstone laying flat on ground surface immediately north of the trench (19 in report)
0027	2	Grave	Fill	0026	Pale yellowish brown clay sand with chalk flecks mixed with patches of mid grey brown clay sand	
0028	2	Grave	Cut	0028	E-W grave situated against the northern side of the trench. Coffin shaped cut clearly defined in the excavated base of the trench, not visible at a higher level during machining	Relationship with 0034 unclear
0029	2	Grave	Fill	0028	Pale yellowish brown clay sand with chalk flecks mixed with patches of mid grey brown clay sand	
0030	2	Grave	Cut	0030	Large oval grave cut visible in the excavated base of the trench- not seen at a higher level	Likely associated with later infant burial 0036
0031	2	Grave	Fill	0030	Mid grey brown clay sand mixed with pale yellowish brown clay sand with chalk flecks	
0032	2	Grave	Cut	0032	Irregular cut visible in NW corner of the excavated base of Tr 2	Possible recut family grave?
0033	2	Grave	Fill	0032	Pale yellowish brown clay sand with chalk flecks and CBM. Laid bricks 0042 noted within this fill, possible burial shaft?	
0034	2	Grave	Cut	0034	Large grave cut visible in the northern section cutting subsoil 0041 and partially exposed in plan against the edge of site.	Relationship with 0028 unclear

Context Number	Trench	Feature Type	Category	Feature Number	Description	Interpretation
0035	2	Grave	Fill	0034	Pale yellowish brown clay sand with chalk flecks mixed with patches of mid grey brown clay sand	
0036	1	Grave	Cut	0036	N-S aligned brick-built grave shaft. Made from soft red, frogless bricks bonded with lime mortar laid in an English bond, c.0.5m deep. Head end of the coffin appears to be at the south	Likely grave of William Roper, d.1840
0037	1	Grave	Cut	0037	N-S aligned brick-built grave shaft. Made from soft red, frogless bricks bonded with lime mortar laid in an English bond, c.0.5m deep. Head end of the coffin appears to be at the north	Likely grave of Amy Roper, d.1842
0038	2	Grave	Cut	0038	Small, sub-rectangular grave cut into grave 0030. Only visible in plan at the base of the trench	Likely associated with burial 0030
0039	2	Grave	Fill	0038	Mid grey brown clay sand, very damp. Contains fragments of a very small cranium and ironwork associated with a small coffin	
0040	2	Skeleton		0028	Adult skull exposed 1.1m below the excavated base of the trench in grave 0028	
0041	2	Subsoil	Layer	0041	Mid grey brown loamy clay sand subsoil with occasional mortar and chalk flecks. Cut by graves in Trench 2 but only visible in section, no grave cuts were seen in plan within this layer during machining	
0042	2	Structure		0042	Soft red bricks within grave fill 0033. Deliberately and formally laid but these were not investigated to determine the extent of the structure and whether they were bonded	
0043	1	Wood		0043	Fragment of waterlogged wood immediately south of, and likely associated with, 0014	

Appendix 2. HER Summary

HER Ref	Type	Description	Period
1114	Monument	Medieval mere	Medieval
7932	Monument	Possible Roman villa or wharf	Roman
10979	Monument	Medieval coin hoard	Medieval
11005	Building	St Mary's Church, Diss	Early Bronze Age to Modern
11440	Find Spot	Beaker pin	Beaker
12021	Building	Dolphin House, Church Street/Market Place	Medieval to Post Medieval
12022	Building	1 Mere Street	Medieval to Post Medieval
12055	Monument	Site of medieval moat	Medieval
12056	Monument	Site of St Nicolas' Chapel	Medieval
12059	Building	2 Fair Green	Medieval to Post Medieval
12834	Monument	Probable Iron Age defended settlement and multi-period finds	Early Neolithic to Post Medieval
14541	Find Spot	Roman coin	Roman
15311	Monument	Post medieval windmill	Post Medieval
18474	Building	Greyhound Hotel, 9 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval
25623	Building	Saracen's Head, Mount Street	Post Medieval
29452	Building	9 Denmark Street	Post Medieval
29453	Find Spot	Post medieval clay pipe and pottery	Post Medieval
30597	Building	Park Hotel, Denmark Street	Post Medieval
30598	Building	The Maltings, Shelfanger Road	Post Medieval to Modern
31722	Building	5 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval
31788	Monument	Post medieval glasshouse and pottery	Post Medieval
31847	Building	25 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval
32774	Monument	Fair Green	Medieval to Modern
32775	Building	47 to 50 Denmark Street	Post Medieval
32776	Building	53 to 54 Denmark Street	Post Medieval
33462	Monument	Park Field	Post Medieval
33463	Monument	The Cedars and The Lawn	Post Medieval
33464	Monument	Garden of The Nunnery	Post Medieval
34161	Building	7 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval
34559	Monument	Post medieval track and medieval and post medieval finds	Medieval to Post Medieval
34893	Find Spot	Post medieval token	Post Medieval
39391	Find Spot	Post medieval mount	Post Medieval
39757	Building	57 and 58 Denmark Street	Post Medieval
39780	Building	6 Mere Street	Post Medieval
39836	Building	Old Cherry Tree, 8 Roydon Road	Post Medieval
39837	Building	Brewery House, 6 Roydon Road	Post Medieval
40074	Building	19 and 20 St Nicholas' Street	Post Medieval
40699	Building	13, 14 and 15 Mere Street	Post Medieval
40700	Building	8 Market Place	Post Medieval
40720	Building	18 and 19 Mount Street	Post Medieval
41154	Building	7 and 8 Mere Street	Post Medieval to Modern
41155	Building	9, 10, 11 and 12 Mere Street	Post Medieval
41258	Building	14, 15 and 15A Market Place	Post Medieval
41703	Building	14 and 15 Market Hill	Post Medieval
41783	Building	11 and 12 Market Hill	Post Medieval
42856	Monument	Croft Lane Baptist burial ground	Post Medieval

43282	Building	Old Police Station, 8 to 11 Roydon Road	Modern
43283	Monument	Post medieval garden wall	Post Medieval to Modern
44705	Monument	Liquor Pit	Post Medieval to Modern
45531	Building	4 Fair Green	Post Medieval to Modern
45548	Building	21 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval to Modern
45549	Building	42 Mere Street	Post Medieval to Modern
45550	Building	23 and 24 Denmark Street	Post Medieval to Modern
45592	Building	White Horse Inn	Post Medieval to Modern
45593	Building	12 and 12A St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval to Modern
45640	Building	29 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval to Modern
45656	Building	1A and 1B Market Hill	Post Medieval to Modern
45657	Building	The Denmark Arms Inn	Post Medieval to Modern
45674	Building	10 to 13 Mount Street	Post Medieval to Modern
45675	Building	8 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval to Modern
45676	Building	19 Denmark Street	Post Medieval to Modern
45677	Building	Denmark Street Hall	Post Medieval to Modern
45722	Building	55 and 56 Denmark Street	Post Medieval to Modern
45723	Building	36 Mere Street	Post Medieval to Modern
45725	Building	Corn Hall	Post Medieval to Modern
45788	Building	19 Chapel Street	Post Medieval to Modern
45789	Building	3 Mount Street	Medieval to Modern
45806	Building	The Two Brewers Inn	Post Medieval to Modern
45807	Building	26 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval to Modern
45808	Building	Park House	Post Medieval to Modern
45809	Building	Sun Inn	Post Medieval to Modern
45811	Building	3 to 5 Denmark Street	Post Medieval to Modern
45812	Building	Oak Lodge	Post Medieval to Modern
45853	Building	Coffee Tavern	Post Medieval to Modern
45894	Building	100 to 102 Denmark Street	Post Medieval to Modern
45897	Building	Modern telephone box	Modern
45911	Building	Kings Head Hotel	Post Medieval to Modern
48340	Building	28 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48344	Building	51 to 54 Mere Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48346	Building	62 Mount Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48347	Building	4 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48348	Building	14 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48349	Building	24 St Nicholas Street	Medieval to Modern
48351	Building	13 Market Hill	Post Medieval to Modern
48352	Building	9 Market Place	Post Medieval to Modern
48353	Building	18 Mere Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48354	Building	33 to 35 Mere Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48355	Building	Congregational Church	Post Medieval to Modern
48356	Building	38 Chapel Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48359	Building	Houghton House	Post Medieval to Modern
48360	Building	21 Fair Green	Post Medieval to Modern
48481	Building	25 Denmark Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48482	Building	37 to 45 Denmark Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48483	Building	50 Denmark Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48486	Building	2 Market Hill	Post Medieval to Modern
48487	Building	10 Market Place	Post Medieval to Modern
48489	Building	41 Mere Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48490	Building	68 and 69 Mount Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48491	Building	3 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval to Modern

48492	Building	17 and 18 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48493	Building	Pine House	Post Medieval to Modern
48494	Building	2 Victoria Road	Post Medieval to Modern
48676	Building	1 and 2 Roydon Road	Post Medieval to Modern
48677	Building	6 and 6A St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48678	Building	44 and 45 Mere Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48679	Building	25 to 27 Mere Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48680	Building	Linden House	Post Medieval to Modern
48730	Building	8 and 9 Market Hill	Post Medieval to Modern
48731	Building	4 and 5 Market Place	Post Medieval to Modern
48732	Building	17 and 17A Market Place	Post Medieval to Modern
48733	Building	Former Unitarian Chapel, later Masonic Hall	Post Medieval to Modern
48734	Building	26 to 28 Denmark Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48735	Building	51 and 52 Denmark Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48736	Building	48 to 50 Mere Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48738	Building	2 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48741	Building	1 and 2 Shelfanger Road	Post Medieval to Modern
48742	Building	52 Shelfanger Road	Post Medieval to Modern
48776	Building	2 Mount Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48777	Building	13 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48778	Building	23 and 23A St Nicholas Street	Medieval to Modern
48781	Building	4 to 6 Market Hill	Post Medieval to Modern
48782	Building	1 to 3 Market Place	Post Medieval to Modern
48783	Building	2 and 3 Mere Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48784	Building	Franwin	Post Medieval to Modern
48785	Building	103 Denmark Street	Post Medieval to Modern
48827	Building	16 and 16A Market Place	Post Medieval to Modern
48828	Building	27 St Nicholas Street	Post Medieval to Modern
50559	Find Spot	Backyard of 9-10 Mere Street	Unknown
53903	Building	Early 19th century grotto and arcade associated with the demolished Grasmere House	Post Medieval to Cold War
54103	Find Spot	Medieval/post-medieval and post-medieval coins and metal objects	Medieval to Post Medieval
55591	Building	Diss Water Tower	Modern
55731	Building	Aldrich Brothers Brushmakers	Post Medieval to Cold War
58080	Monument	Site of Former United Free Methodist Chapel	Post Medieval to Cold War
58347	Find Spot	Late prehistoric worked flint	Late Prehistoric
58811	Monument	Possible medieval field boundaries, post medieval drainage ditches, and Upper Palaeolithic or Mesolithic blade	Upper Palaeolithic to Post Medieval
60022	Find Spot	Middle/Late Saxon strap-end	Middle Saxon to Medieval
60572	Monument	Deposits relating to former extent of The Mere	Early Neolithic to Post Medieval
62410	Find Spot	Roydon (known as)	Post Medieval
62710	Find Spot	Medieval buckle	Medieval

Appendix 3. Documentary report

Disused Baptist Burial Ground, Croft Lane, Diss

Background

The purpose of this report is to answer a requirement for a desk-based assessment as set out in the 'Brief for a Programme of Archaeological Mitigatory Work ... at the Former Baptist Burial Ground Junction of Croft Lane and Croft Close Diss, Norfolk' (James Albone, Historic Environment Senior Officer, Norfolk County Council, 26 March 2018).

'The desk-based research should include, but not be limited to, examinations of any relevant documentary material (including burials records and historic newspapers), cartographic sources and photographic records held by the Baptist communities of Diss and Norfolk, Norfolk Record Office, Diss Museum, Norfolk Local Studies Library and other appropriate repositories'.

The brief includes some limited background information 'A Baptist meeting-house was established in Diss in 1789 and it seems likely that it lay adjacent to the Croft Lane burial ground. The eighteenth-century chapel was replaced by the present Baptist chapel on Denmark Street in 1859. A separate Baptist Tabernacle was also established in Diss parish in 1822'.

The brief gives as one of its sources as 'An article in the Diss Express in 1928 makes reference to an Old Baptist chapel in Croft Lane'.

The brief continues

'The period of operation of the burial ground at Croft Lane is uncertain, but it is likely to have been established at the same time as the meeting-house in the late 1780s. Many of the surviving memorials at the burial ground were moved to the boundary of the site in 1968. Those still present and legible in 2006 exhibited a date range of 1810 to 1890, suggesting that the burial ground remained in use after the present chapel on Denmark Street opened. The day of the last interments at Croft Lane is not known. Surviving memorials have been relocated to the present chapel'.

Introduction

The research for this report has been carried out at the Norfolk Record Office, Norwich.

The burial ground site in Croft Lane, Diss was formerly the property of the Baptist Church in Denmark Street, Diss. All Baptist churches are self-governing and self-supporting. 'Each Baptist Church is an independent entity' and church's property is held by local trustees rather than by a corporate body. The various Baptist churches come together in association with one another. Most belong to the Baptist Union of Great Britain who hold the annual assembly. There is a council of 80 members, who guide rather than instruct the various churches. Most of the records that have been created by Baptist Churches are not public records. There is no obligation for the churches to surrender any of their records to any local or national archive repository. There is also no obligation on county record office to act either on their own initiative or as agents of bodies such as the former National Register of Archives to collect or prepare lists of Baptists' records, though of course they have been and are very willing to accept and archive any such collection of records. In this respect the Norfolk Record Office was pleased to receive in 2013 the list of

'Names From Grave Stones' sent to them by the Managing Trustee of the Diss Baptist Church (ref. FC 143/1). This document is the only document deposited at the Norfolk Record Office by the Baptist Church, Denmark Street, Diss.

The Baptist Union of Great Britain is not indifferent to their history and there are links on their website to the Baptist Family History Society and to the Baptists' archives held at the Angus Library & Archive in Oxford.

The Local Studies Library at the Millennium Library in Norwich have copies of some published sources such as printed sermons, but these sources though relevant to a general history of the Baptist Church in Diss, are not relevant to the study of the burial ground.

The collection management team at Diss Museum was contacted by e-mail. They have confirmed, that the Museum does not hold any documents or photographic records relating to the Baptist congregations in Diss or relating to burial ground at Croft Lane. The author of this report gratefully acknowledges their assistance.

Though Baptists were formally described as Protestant Dissenters or as Non-Conformists, they have been obliged at various times to submit records to governmental bodies in accordance with specific legislation.

Non-Parochial Registers Commission 1857

In 1857, the General Register Office requested submission of Non-Parochial register to a Commission. The Baptist church in Diss submitted their registers to this commission and are described in the National Archives catalogue as covering the area of 'Diss, Norfolk including Roydon and other places in Norfolk and Suffolk'. The register was mainly for baptisms, but it did include a 'few entries of Marriages and Deaths'. The register covered the years 1780-1834 (ref. RG8/80).

Digital copies of this register are available online. Inside the front cover, is the inscription 'Register Book Charles Farmery 1791' and beneath '1802 Wm Ward Pastor of the Baptist Union Tabernacle Diss, Died April 30 1835' and below these inscriptions 'Nov 1836 Henry Pratt Pastor of the Baptist Union Tabernacle Diss'. Baptist congregations do not believe in the baptism of infants. Baptism is reserved for those who consciously wish to become members of the church. This register records the births of children to members of the congregation. A number of these children died before they were ever baptised and against the birth entries the words 'died' or 'dead' have been entered against the birth entry. Normally the dates of death are not given. As an example, on page 6 there are the names of the nine children of Robert and Sarah Witting, of Diss, who were born between January 1790 and February 1803, seven of these children died. The entries in the register are not in a chronological sequence but are set out in family groups. Some of these families did not live in Diss. The names of these families and the range of dates of birth for their children and their place of residence are given in **Appendix One**. There are two groups of entries crossed out in the original register as 'carried into the register Book of Eye'. These have been omitted. Pages 19-24, 29-30 and 57-62 of the original register appear to be missing.

There is a small problem with the catalogue reference. Until 1837 the only marriages legally recognised under Lord Harwicke's marriage Act of 1753 (26 Geo II c. 33) were Anglican, Quaker or Jewish marriages. For other Protestant Dissenters and Roman Catholics there was no legal right to any marriage ceremony performed outside the established Anglican church. The sole reference to a marriage is that of William Ward, who was the Baptist minister or pastor of the Tabernacle, 'William Ward, clerk of Binwell &

Margaret Simpson daughter of Wm Woolley Simpson, Brewer, of Diss were married at Diss October 9th 1796 by Rev Hurn of Debenham'. His marriage was performed by Rev William Hurd, the Anglican vicar of Debenham. The Marriage Act of 1836 (6 & 7 Wm IV, c. 85) allowed marriages to be legally registered in buildings belonging to other religious groups, if their buildings had been registered with the Register General. Under the 1836 act weddings in such buildings were only legal if the Registrar and two witnesses were present.

The register offers some additional details relating to Rev Ward's children. The entry for Margaret Ward is somewhat fuller 'born at Diss April 30th 1798; & died by the firing of her clothes, but deeply sensible of sin & desirous of going to rest with Jesus, Jany 28, 1803'. Not all of this family were born in Diss, William, their second son was born in Aberdeenshire, 'he left Scotland for England at 1 year & 3 ½ months'. Robert Ward who was born at Diss in 1803 'died in Dublin, Ireland April 28 1824'.

Religious Census 1851

The religious census of 1851 was carried out on 30 March 1851. On that Sunday local ministers were requested to report the attendance at their services. The accuracy of the returns was a matter of some controversy in an age of evangelization between the various Christian denominations and the census was never repeated.

The Norfolk returns for the religious census of 1851 have been published (Ede & Virgoe 1998). The population of the parish of Diss was then 3637. The returns give the names of the church, chapel or meeting house, the date when the building was built, the numbers that could be accommodated within the building and the totals for those attending the morning, afternoon and evening services. The returns were signed by the minister of each congregation.

There were two congregations of Baptist in Diss. The Baptist Tabernacle in Cock Street had been erected in 1840 and provided seating for 300 though the estimated numbers who attended were just 78. Their minister was Henry Pratt who lived at Hoxne, Suffolk. Henry Pratt's name appears in the register submitted to the Non-Parochial Register Commission in 1857.

The address of the 'Baptist Chapel' at Croft Lane is omitted from the returns. The Baptist Chapel had been erected in 1789 and could accommodate 300. It was well-attended with services in the morning attracting 200, in the afternoon 330 and evening 140. Some attended more than one service on a Sunday. There was also a Sunday school with '112 Scholars'. The returns for the chapel were signed on 31 March 1851 by the minister 'J.P. Lewis, Mount Street, Diss'.

It is important to briefly consider the other congregations of Non-Conformists in the town. The Society of Friends (Quakers) meeting house in Church Street had an average attendance of just 10, but some Quakers met at the 'Friends Meeting and Wesleyan Reformers whose evening services attracted as many as 220. The largest congregation for the Primitive Methodists' services was the 60 who attended in the afternoon, the Independent Chapel (Congregationalists) had as many as 400 attending their evening service and the Wesleyan Methodist has 184 again for the evening services. Unlike the established Anglican church whose congregation of 514 was made up almost exclusively of parishioners and residents of Diss, each of the Non-Conformists bodies served not only for the residents of the town but also for the surrounding area.

Non-Parochial Register Commission 1837

Until 1837, there was no civil registration of births and deaths in England and Wales. Written proof of age, legitimacy and nationality could only be provided through the registers of baptisms kept by the Church of England. There were no records of death, just burial registers. Under the terms of George Rose's Act of 1812 (52 Geo III c. 146) the parishes of the Church of England were to keep separate registers of baptisms and burials with the intention to 'greatly facilitate the Proof of Pedigrees of Persons claiming to be entitled to Real or Personal Estates, and otherwise of great public Benefit and Advantage'. The printed registers introduced under this act are still in use. By the growing numbers of Protestant dissenters and Roman Catholics meant that it was no longer appropriate for the Church of England to have exclusive control over such matters. The registers of the established Anglican church themselves no longer provided the accurate population statistics that were increasingly deemed to be necessary.

The Non-Parochial Register Commission was established in order to try and assess the numbers that were no longer seeking baptism at the Anglican church and to consider giving legitimacy to the baptism and birth entries recorded in the registers of Protestant Dissenters and Roman Catholic congregations. The commission was to inquire 'into the State, Custody and Authenticity of Non-parochial registers'.

The registers were returned with a completed questionnaire. The register returned for the Baptist congregation in Diss was a register of births only (ref. RG4/1135). The denomination founded in 1789 was further described as 'Particular Baptist'. The book had been in the care of the chapel's deacons who were also the trustees. From 1835 onwards the register had been held by Ezekiel Potter as deacon and trustee. The questionnaire is dated 27 June 1837 was completed by James Youell 'member and trustee of the particular Baptist Church Diss in Norfolk'. The minister N. Tidd had died and 'there is at present no settled minister'. Question 7 was 'If you know of any Register being lost, state the time and occasion of the loss to the best of your information' and the reply was 'In the year 1821 some members separated themselves & formed a new (?) called the Tabernacle, who now possess our former register which they have forwarded to the secretary of state'.

There is no record of the Tabernacle returning their register in response to this commission. They did return the register described above to the commission in 1857. Until the split in the Congregation in 1821, there was just one Baptist congregation and therefore both registers may include the names of those buried at Croft Lane.

The register is divided in two parts. On page 9 of the register, there is the inscription 'We certify that this is one of the Registers or Records deposited in the General Register Office, pursuant to the Act of the 4th Victoria, Cap 92 and that part which appears to us to be original or authentic is that which precedes this certificate'. There are further entries 'The following names were omitted to the register at the proper periods, but the Parents of the children whose names follow handed in the names, dates &c, this twenty sixth day of June One Thousand eight and thirty seven'.

At the end of each entry is a column headed 'when and by whom registered'. From the first entry dated 9 September 1825 through to the second entry of page 5 dated 12 October 1829 each entry is signed by William Payne. The remaining entries from 22 July 1830 to the 3 February 1835 are signed by Nathaniel Tidd. A final entry is signed by Thomas Middleditch on 19 January 1836. The latter entries originally omitted from the register are signed by Jonathon P Lewis.

The surnames of those named in the register, the numbers and range of dates of their children's births and their fathers' occupations and places of residents are set out in **Appendix Two**. The names have been

re-arranged in an alphabetical sequence to assist in the comparison between the names given in the Baptist Tabernacle register. Only one member of the congregation was described as a gentleman, other were in trade but a significant number were just labourers.

Tithe Commutation Act 1836

Tithe maps were produced under the Tithe Commutation Act of 1836 to assist in the process of changing the traditional payments of tithes, a tax of one tenth of agricultural produce payable to the established church, to a fixed rent charge. The maps defined the boundaries of each property with each parcel beginning given an apportionment number. The names of the owners, and occupiers are given in the separate tithe apportionment.

The tithe maps are available at the Millennium Library in the centre of Norwich through the website 'the Genealogist'. The Genealogist have copied the National Archives microfilm copies of the tithe maps and apportionments submitted to the Tithe Commission. On the tithe map for Diss (1838) the site of the chapel is numbered 785. The building and the adjoining lane are not labelled on the map. In the apportionment it is described as a Baptist Church and Burial ground, then in the ownership of the trustee Mr Edward Mines.

All denominations were required to pay tithes until the payment of tithes was repealed in 1936.

Toleration Act 1689

Under the terms of the 1689 Toleration Act Protestant dissenters were entitled to register their meeting houses with the bishop of each diocese or with the county Quarter Sessions. By an act of 1812 the registration became compulsory.

The early records consist of certificates submitted by each congregation to the bishop. Amongst the records for 1754-1802 (ref. DN/DIS 2), there is the original certificate for Croft Lane. The certificate was for 'a certain house or building called a Meeting House now newly erected and situate within the parish of Diss in the County of Norfolk and Diocese of Norwich, near the Road leading from Diss to Kenninghall'. The 'said house or building is a place designed and set apart for the exercise of Religious Worship for divers of his Majesty's Protestant subjects dissenting from the Church of England'. The hand-written certificate is dated 4 June 1789 and was signed by Charles Farmery 'Pastor', the trustees John Francis, Richard Minter and John Waller and John Sharman.

These certificates were necessary because dissenting ministers who performed services elsewhere would be in breach of the Conventicle Act of 1670 and could on conviction be fined £20.

The 1670 act and other legislation prevented Non-Conformist Ministers from holding burial services within the grounds of a parish church. Unless Non-Conformists were willing to allow their ministers and other members of their congregations to be buried in accordance with Anglican rites, they needed to have their own burial grounds.

Monumental Inscriptions

The Norfolk Record Office has a separate catalogue for all the collections of Norfolk monumental inscriptions, some include plans of the burial grounds. These collections exist for only about a third of Norfolk's parishes and there are no records for either the parish church or any other burial ground at Diss.

The agents for applicant have supplied a copy of a letter sent to Mr J Cox by the Norfolk Record Office on 31 May 2013. In letter the senior archivist thanked Mr Cox for the 'transcript of Diss Baptist Church Burial Ground, Croft Lane, monumental inscriptions' and added 'I wonder if you would mind clarifying whether the bodies have been re-interred and, if they have, where they have been placed'. The letter concluded with 'if Diss Baptist Church would like to deposit further records with us we would be very happy to receive them'. With the letter there is a description of the record which had been deposited on 24 May 2013, 'Transcript lists names and dates on gravestones but records little further information. With copy of Land Registry official copy of title plan'. Mr Cox did supply additional information, that the gravestones had been removed to Denmark Street, 'in 2011 for safekeeping. A number had been badly damaged by weather erosion and by vandals. The Burial Ground had not been used for burials for at least 100 years'. Both the letter and description are date stamped 18 June 2013.

This list is the only record deposited by the Diss Baptist Church, Denmark Street, Diss (ref. FC143/1). It is not a list of the inscriptions from all the monuments, just of those removed from Croft Lane.

The list is headed 'Names From Grave Stones' (**Appendix Three**). There is no explanation of how the list was prepared. The numbers of individual stones are not quantified, there are no details or references to illegible stones. On this list there are 40 entries, but only 25 full names, another 5 are first or Christian-names only and remaining 10 are just initials. Some 32 entries are dated but with the year only. The other entries are entirely undated. If the dates are accurate the earliest burial was in 1804 the last burial was in 1888. There are 8 entries from before the congregation divided in 1821, but amongst the entries there are William Ward (1835) Margaret Ward (1836) and Margaret Ward (1806) and possibly Robert (1824), Iliza (1824) and Sarah (1825) also belong to this family. William Ward led the separation of the two congregations in 1821 and formed the Baptist Tabernacle. He died on 30 April 1835, his wife was Margaret who died in 1836, their first daughter Margaret had died as a result of the fire in 1803 not 1806 a second daughter named Margaret was born in 1813. Their son Robert was born in 1803 and died in Dublin in 1824, it is unlikely that he is buried in Diss. Eliza Ward was born in 1802 and died at 'Tabernacle Plain, Diss' on 6 August 1824. Sarah Ward born in 1807 died on 15 July 1825.

Amongst the other entries are some obviously family groupings such as. Against the names of the three members of the Bayles family; Daniel, Mary (twice) and Hannah, there is a single date 1869. Elizabeth Bond (1884) is described as 'second wife' but whether she was second wife of George Bond (1868) or Henry Wright Bond (1875) is unclear. The names Sarah and John Mannering 1814 and 1838 are entered together on the same line. The only other possible family are James Nurse (1831) and Lydia (1833).

There would be difficulties in gathering additional details for these families. It is uncertain, whether or not these families lived in Diss or close by. Most of the entries pre-date the introduction of civil registration in 1837 and the censuses 1841-1891. The Individuals that do appear in the censuses Jabez Dawson 1877, the Bayles family 1869, James Brooks 1862 and all the three Bonds are described in the notes attached to Appendix Three. Other post 1841 entries are just initials MC (1855), EY (1869), JO (1888) and SO (1844).

Until 1858 the established Church of England held jurisdiction over probate. Probate was granted at various church courts. The indexes of the names of the testators whose wills were proven at Norfolk's

two archdeaconry courts or bishops' consistory court and available online. None of the names listed on the 'Names from Grave Stones' appear in the indexes. The records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury are available online and again there are none of the names of those listed on the grave stones.

Sometimes the use of just initials indicate that the stone had been paid for by the congregation as the deceased was too poor. It should not be assumed that this was the case with the Baptist. They or members of their congregation may have shared the same principals as Quakers who would not allow for many years names to appear on gravestones.

The practice of consecrating burials grounds is a rite of the Anglican church. The idea or belief of burial within a sacred space may not have been shared by Baptists.

Trade Directories

The first edition of White's 'Directory of Norfolk' was published in 1836 noted that 'There are in the town six Dissenters' chapels: two belonging to the Baptists, and one each to the Wesleyans, Independents, Unitarians and Society of Friends', but it does not name the then Baptist minister. The names of other pastors or ministers can be obtained from some of the later published trade directories. In White's Directory of 1854 and 1864 there is Rev Jonathan P Lewis, earlier John Philip Lewis in White's Directory of 1845, in Harrod's directory of 1868 Rev W. F. Gooch is listed as minister.

History of Baptists in Norfolk

Fuller details of the lives and ministries of each pastor are given in typescript notes compiled by the Rev Maurice F Hewett for his intended history of the Baptists of Norfolk (ref. MS 4259-61). The three volumes are arranged in an alphabetical sequence by the names of the parish. The church in Diss was part of the Norfolk Association and Baptist Union. The first pastor was Charles Farmery (1789-1800). His surname was sometimes spelt Firmiry or Firmery. He was born in North Walsham on 2 April 1761. He first began to preach at Diss in August 1788, initially at the house of Robert Wilson in Roydon. Early baptisms were carried out at a 'pond in Burston'. These services possibly contravened the Conventicle Act. The building of the chapel at Diss began in February 1789 and the first meeting was held there on 4 June 1789. 'In the year 1798 the Meeting House was enlarged, and the Baptist Building Fund made a grant of £150 to the church'. He also established other churches at the same time at Stowmarket, and Horham in Suffolk. He was also fined £20 for contravening the Conventicle Act when he preached at a Wetheringsett in a house that had not been licensed. Farmery died on 26 October 1800.

His successor was Thomas Johnson 'he was apparently a member of the Diss Church' but remained only briefly at Diss before moving to Fakenham. The next pastor was William Ward M.A. who had been 'trained at Queen's College, Cambridge' and had been a curate on the Established church before becoming a Baptist. At the time the church in Diss was part of the Norfolk and Suffolk Association. 'In the year 1822 William Ward changed his sentiments regarding the Trinity and founded another church in Diss taking with him a majority of his members. He died on April 30th 1835 at the age of 65'. A G. W. Wilkes was appointed to preach at the Norfolk and Suffolk Association Meetings in Diss in 1825 but the next pastor was William Payne from Coggeshall. He came to Diss in about 1826 and the following year withdrew the church from the Norfolk and Suffolk Association. In 1829 he moved from Diss to Aldringham. His successor was Nathaniel Tidd, who is buried at Croft Lane. He died on 22 September 1835.

The next pastor Jonathan Preston Lewis was born at Cardiff on 2 February 1812. His father Thomas Lewis had founded Cardiff's first Baptist Church. Jonathan Preston Lewis was educated at Horton College, Bradford in Yorkshire in 1833-1836. He began preaching or 'supplying the pulpit' at Diss before completing his studies. He was ordained on 28 September 1837. In 1838 he preached at Diss to the Norfolk and Suffolk Association as the chapel had rejoined the association. Lewis was married in 1841 to Jane the daughter of William Roper a London surgeon. By the 1850's the old chapel built only of 'stud and plaster' was 'old, dilapidated and somewhat dangerous'. The memorial stone of the new chapel in Denmark Street was laid on 30 August 1859 and the building was opened on 20 March 1860. The new building had cost 'nearly £2000' and had a capacity of 650 seats. The costs of building the church were cleared by 1863. Lewis preached for the last time at Diss in June 1865. Due to illness he resigned from the pastorate in January 1866 and died at Norwich on 20 December 1868.

For a period 1868-1881 there was a number of pastors. Lewis' successor was William Fuller Gooch but he remained pastor at Diss until 1872 only. The next pastor was Andrew Doel he remained for only two years and was succeeded in 1874 by Henry Bradford. He remained until 1877. The next pastor was James Stobie Colville who born in Edinburgh. He first preached at Diss on 26 October 1877 and died there on 7 February 1881.

The next pastor was George William Pope. During his time the 'Diss Chapel and schoolroom were renovated at a cost of £30'. The schoolroom was attached to the Denmark Street Church. The church then had 164 members. When Pope moved to Shepherd's Bush in 1890 the church had a membership of 179. By the time that James Easter took up the position of pastor in 1890 the last of the burials at Croft green had occurred.

Hewett makes no mention of the chapel at Croft Lane or the burial ground. The Denmark street chapel's school room was taken over by the military during the First World War. By 1943 the church was part of the Baptist Union Corporation.

The later pastors were James Easter 1890-1901, Joseph Price Newman 1902-1909, George Worfolk Campbell 1910-1915, Angus Mackay 1916-1921, Benjamin Fendick 1921-1923, Samuel Close 1924-1931, Ernest George Hinton 1933-1942 and Wilfrid Noel John Clarke 1943 -.

The reference to the 'Old Chapel' in Croft Lane in the Diss Express occurs in an obituary published on 22 June 1928 in relating the death of the then oldest member of the Denmark Street congregation who had been a member when in the former chapel was in use. The article does not contain any other details relating to the history of the chapel.

There are numerous references in the Victorian papers to the Baptists at Diss. The regular meeting of the Baptist Association of Norfolk and Suffolk at Diss attracted a considerable number as such day long meetings were both a religious and social.

Civic Burial Ground

A new Burial Ground for all denominations was established at Diss in 1868 and opened in 1869. The records relating to the Burial Board in the form of ledgers (1868-1949) are amongst the Diss Urban District records (ref. DC 6/3/23-28). There does not appear to have been any orders in Council for the closure of the various burials grounds in Diss.

In 1878 the incumbent of the parish of Akenham, Suffolk was accused of trying to prevent the burial of an unbaptised infant, whose parents were Baptists, within the churchyard. The case and other similar instances lead to the Burial Laws Amendment Act of 1880 (43 & 44 Vict c 41). After the passing of the act it became possible to allow non-Anglican burials within separated areas of a parish churchyard. There were still restrictions regarding the nature of the service.

Conclusion

There is no list of the burials at Croft Lane and it is unlikely than any such list or register of burials was even kept. The 'Names from the Grave Stones' only relates to the stones removed for safekeeping, it is not a list of all the grave stones at Croft Lane. It does not quantify the numbers of stones. There is no other listing. Though the congregation at Croft Lane split in 1821-1822 with the then minister or pastor William Ward taking half the congregation away to form the Baptist Tabernacle, this did not prevent him and others of his family from being buried at Croft Lane. The Baptist Church at Diss served the needs of the Baptists in Diss and within a wider area of north Suffolk and southern Norfolk.

The purpose of the burial ground was to allow Baptists to be buried according to their own rites, beliefs and traditions without the interference of the established Anglican church. It should not be assumed their beliefs include any idea of consecration. The beliefs of Baptist congregations may not be as rigid as those of other Christian churches.

The burial ground does include the burials of two former ministers William Ward (died 1835) and Nathaniel Tidd (died 1836).

Anthony M Breen

July 2018

References

Norfolk Record Office

DN/DIS 2 Non-Conformist Dissenter Meeting House Certificates 1754-1802

FC 143/1 Names from Grave Stones (Croft Lane, Diss) 2013

Ms 4259-1461 Rev Maurice F Hewett 'Collection of Material in Preparation for an Historical Record of the Baptists of Norfolk and Their Churches' 1942-1947

Online Resources

From National Archives

RG8/80 Register of Births 'Diss, Norfolk including Roydon and other places in Norfolk and Suffolk 1780-1834' 1857

RG4/1135 Register of Births Particular Baptist, Diss 1837

IR 29 & 30/23/175 Tithe Apportionment and Map, Diss 1837-1838

Census 1851 & 1861 (Full references see Appendix Three Notes)

Published Sources

Janet Ede & Norma Virgoe 'Religious Worship in Norfolk: The 1851 Census of Accommodation and Attendance at Worship' Norfolk Records Society Vol. 62, pub 1998

Trade Directories

White's Directory of Norfolk 1835, 1845, 1854 and 1864

Harrod's Directory of Norfolk 1868

Appendix One. Baptist Union Tabernacle, Diss

Names from the register of the Baptist Union Tabernacle, Diss (ref. RG8/80) have been rearranged below in an alphabetical sequence.

Surnames	No. Born & Died	Dates	Page	Place
Aldrich	1 & 0	1809	43	Hoxne, Suffolk
Aldridge	4 & 0	1795-1806	12	Palgrave, Suffolk
Aldridge	4 & 0	1817-1823	65	Diss
Algar	3 & 1	1814-1819	50	Roydon
Baker	1 & 0	1812	47	Bressingham
Balls T & M	2 & 0	1794-1796	7	Thrandeston, Suff.
Balls	1 & 0	1806	38	Harleston
Balls	2 & 0	1806-1813	38	Scole
Balls J & S	4 & 0	1815-1827	52	Thrandeston, Suff.
Barker	2 & 0	1804-1806	31	Wetheringsett Suff.
Barnham	1 & 0	1799	26	North Lopham
Beart J & E	2 & 0	1802-1804	27	Palgrave, Suffolk
Beart W & H	2 & 0	1793-1801	15	Palgrave, Suffolk
Beart	1 & 0	1813	49	Diss
Bilham	5 & 0	1799-1808	40	Garboldisham
Bird	2 & 0	1813-1819	50 & 56	Diss
Bond	2 & 0	1824-1825	63	Royden
Bootman	2 & 0	1808-1809	42	Scole
Boulter	5 & 0	1801-1813	41	Scole
Brown	1 & 0	1804	32	Mellis, Suffolk
Brown	1 & 0	1803	34	Brome, Suffolk
Bryant J & E	4 & 0	1792-1804	10	Bressingham
Bryant S & E	5 & 0	1788-1796	11	Farsfield
Butcher	1 & 0	1801	49	Diss
Calton	6 & 0	1796-1812	12	Diss
Cann	3 & 0	1794-1798	16	Rickinghall, Suffolk
Clark	2 & 0	1804-1805	33	Diss
Cobb	8 & 0	1804-1815	33	Brome, Suffolk
Cook	9 & 2	1793-1809	13	Diss
Cook (as above)	1 & 0	1810	13	Palgrave, Suffolk
Cook	1 & 0	1798	14	Horham, Suffolk
Dawson	1 & 0	1796	8	Lowestoft, Suffolk
Dawson (as above)	1 & 0	1798	8	Roydon
Denny	1 & 0	1799	18	Yaxley, Suffolk
Dove	3 & 0	1802-1809	28	Roydon
Downing	6 & 0	1793-1811	45	Diss
Drane	1 & 0	1798	14	Hoxne, Suffolk
Elsy	5 & 2	1806-1821	39	Diss
Farmery	4 & 3	1791-1799	3	Diss
Fellingham	1 & 0	1810	45	Redgrave, Suffolk

Fisk	1 & 0	1806	37	Thrandeston, Suff.
Folger	1 & 0	1820	63	Rickinghall, Suffolk
Frost	4 & 0	1817-1822	52	Diss
Fuller	2 & 0	1797-1801	7	Wortham, Suffolk
Fuller	4 & 0	1801-1806	47	Roydon
Garrod	2 & 1	1812-1818	48	Bressingham
Gillum	1 & 0	1813	49	Diss
Gobbet	7 & 1	1799-1805	28	Diss
Hart	1 & 0	1805	35	Thrandeston, Suff.
Hart	1 & 0	1823	64	Burston
Havers	5 & 0	1799-1810	34	Eye, Suffolk
Hawes	4 & 0	1802-1807	31	Thrandeston, Suff.
Hines	1 & 0	1801	25	Diss
Hunt	2 & 0	1801-1803	25	Braisworth, Suffolk
Jackaman	4 & 0	1812-1816	46	Diss
Jackman	3 & 0	1804-1809	44	Diss
Jacob	1 & 0	1802	27	Yaxley, Suffolk
Jefferies	1 & 0	1798	17	Thorpe, Norfolk
Johnson	2 & 0	1798-1799	13	Diss
Johnson	1 & 0	1812	48	Bressingham
Jolly	2 & 0	1808-1810	43	Scole
Knights	2 & 0	1796-1798	10	Oakley, Suffolk
Knights	8 & 1	1799-1820	17	Diss
Knights	6 & 1	1804-1814	37	Roydon
Knights	1 & 0	nd	51	not given
Linstead	1 & 0	1817	55	Bressingham
Mason	1 & 0	1801	26	North Lopham
Mayhew	4 & 0	1796-1803	7	Thrandeston, Suff.
Meadows	5 & 0	1790-1803	4	Mellis, Suffolk
Meadows	2 & 0	1808-1809	44	Diss
Monsor	3 & 0	1790-1797	11	Farsfield
Orford	4 & 0	1824-1831	65	Botesdale, Suffolk
Perry	7 & 0	1799-1811	40	Thrandeston, Suff.
Pettit	3 & 1	1798-1804	16	Oakley, Suffolk
Pollard	3 & 0	1809-1813	51	Dickleburgh
Pratt	6 & 0	1821-1834	25	Hoxne, Suffolk
Prime	4 & 1	1804-1808	36	Diss
Quantrell J & S	9 & 0	1786-1801	5	Diss
Quantrell J & M	1 & 0	1805	56	Diss
Quantrell (as above)	4 & 0	1808-1817	56	Norwich
Rainer	4 & 0	1795-1804	9	Hoxne, Suffolk
Read	4 & 0	1817-1821	53	Bressingham
Rivett	1 & 0	1804	32	Palgrave, Suffolk
Rivett	1 & 0	1821	63	Bressingham
Roper	2 & 1	1805-1808	35	Bressingham

Roper	1 & 0	1814	50	Thrandeston, Suff.
Roughton	3 & 0	1823-1832	64	Royden
Saunders R & M	4 & 0	1784-1794	9	Burston
Saunders T & M	1 & 0	1780	9	Burtson
Scrivener	1 & 0	1823	55	Diss
Sheldrick	3 & 1	1797-1805	4	Hoxne, Suffolk
Smith	1 & 0	1797	15	Laxfield, Suffolk
Smith (as above)	2 & 0	1800-1801	15	Yaxley, Suffolk
Spurling	4 & 0	1814-1819	53	Thrandeston, Suff.
Steggalls	2 & 0	1797-1800	8	Thrandeston
Tunmore	1 & 0	1798	42	Bunwell
Waller	1 & 0	1793	6	Diss
Ward	1 & 1	1797	54	Wethersfield, Essex
Ward (as above)	11 & 6	1798-1816	54	Diss
Ward (as above)	1 & 0	1799	54	Scotland
Warren	3 & 0	1804-1811	38	Thrandeston, Suff.
Witting	9 & 7	1790-1803	6	Diss
Woods	8 & 0	1809-1827	46	Farsfield

The marriage entry on p 54 is for 'William Ward clerk of Bunwell & Margaret Simpson daughter of Wm Woolley Simpson, Brewer, of Diss were married at Diss October 9th 1796 by Rev W Hurn of Debenham'. Rev William Hurn was vicar of Debenham (1790-1823).

Appendix Two. Particular Baptist Register, 1837 (RG4/1135)

Surnames from the Particular Baptist Register have been re-arranged in an alphabetical sequence.

Surname	No	Parents	Dates	Occupation	Place
Bond	3	David & Lucy (Harbour)	1827-1831	Labourer	Roydon
Bond	1	David & Lucy (Harbour)	1832	Labourer	Diss
Bond	1	David & Eliza (Davy)	1834	Labourer	Diss
Wright-Bond	2	George & Rebekah (Wright)	1834-1835	Tailor	Diss
Bore	1	Robert & Susannah (Seir)	1827	Labourer	Diss
Brooks	6	James & Elizabeth (Kemp)	1820-1831	Labourer	Diss
Brooks	1	James & Elizabeth (Kemp)	1834	Malster	Diss
Buxton	1	Job & Sarah (Lawrence)	1833	Cabinet Maker	Diss
Elsegood	1	Isaac & Sophia (Catamole)	1824	Labourer	Struston
Frost	7	William & Mary (Howe)	1819-1831	Labourer	Diss
Harrison	3	John & Jemina (Bryant)	1827-1832	Miller & Millwright	Diss
Harrison	1	John & Jemina (Bryant)	1827-1832	Miller & Millwright	Eye
Hayles	1	George & Elizabeth (Hartslone)	1831	Officer of Excise	Diss
Hubbard	6	Joseph & Martha (Laws)	1811-1821	Labourer	Mellis
Hubbard	2	Joseph & Martha (Casen)	1825-1827	Labourer	Mellis
Leader	1	James & Mary (Bartram)	1830	Labourer	Diss
Mines	1	Edward & Elizabeth (Simpson)	1827	Gent.,	Diss
Pettit	1	Robert & Frances (Bailey)	1827	Basket Maker	Oakley
Pool	2	Robert & Eliza (Merton)	1830-1832	Collar Maker	Diss
Potter	6	Ezekiel & Francis (Rudd)	1822-1831	Labourer	Diss
Roper	1	John & Hannah (Spurden)	1814	Labourer	Thrandeston
Rout	1	William & Mary (Bartram)	1815	Labourer	Shelfanger
Rout	8	William & Mary (Bartram)	1817-1830	Labourer	Diss
Saunders	3	Zachariah & Rebecca (Sharman)	1806-1803	Labourer	Diss
Spelman	3	George & Frances (Spurling)	1828-1831	Shopkeeper	Diss
Stannard	2	Robert & Mary (Meadows)	1831-1832	Shoemaker	Diss
Youel	1	James & Harriet (Long)	1834	Shopman	Diss

On page 9 of the register, there is the inscription 'We certify that this is one of the Registers or Records deposited in the General Register Office, pursuant to the Act of the 4th Victoria, Cap 92 and that part which appears to us to be original or authentic is that which precedes this certificate

The follows a further note

'The following names were omitted to the register at the proper periods, but the Parents of the children whose names follow handed in the names, dates &c, this twenty sixth day of June One Thousand eight and thirty seven'.

Surname	No	Parents	Dates	Occupation	Place
Bond	1	David & Eliza (Davy)	1833	Labourer	Diss
Cunnell	3	Robert & Mary Ann (Flat)	1825-1830	Shopkeeper	Wortham

Cunnell	1	Robert & Sophia (Driver)	1835	Shopkeeper	Wortham
Fletcher	10	Benjamin & Jane (Quantrill)	1809-1829	Currier	Diss
Good	1	William & Mary (Brook)	1836	Coach-maker	Diss
Middleton	2	Not given	1813-1822	Labourer	Diss Common
Middleton	1	George & Martha (Knowles)	1835	Labourer	Diss
Mulliss	1	James & Martha (Knowles)	1830	Baker	London (Diss)
Potter	2	Ezekiel & Francis (Rudd)	1833-1836	Labourer	Diss
Rose	1	Robert & Susan (Sair)	1829	Labourer	Scole
Spelman	3	George & Francis (Spurling)	1832-1836	Grocer	Diss
Stannard	2	Robert & Mary (Meadows)	1834-1836	Shoe-maker	Diss
Youels	1	James & Harriet (Long)	1835	Shopman	Diss

Appendix Three

The names typed below are in the same sequence as in the original document (ref. NRO FC143/1) prepared by Mr Cox in 2013.

Names From Grave Stones

No.	Name or initial	Year
1	Jane Emma Lewis	1814
2	Nathaniel Tidd	
3	Bridget Burrows	1805
4	Jabez Dawson	1877
5	WP	1836
6	MC	1855
7	William Ward	1835
8	Margaret Ward	1836
9	Margaret Ward	1806
10	Robert	1824
11	Iliza	1824
12	Sarah	1825
13	Emily Youells	1804
14 & 15	Sarah and John Mannering	1814 and 1838
16	Benjamin Saunders	
17	George Calvert	1806
18	Daniel Bayles	
19	Mary Bayles	
20	Mary Bayles	1869
21	Hannah Bayles	
22	James Brooks	1862
23	Eliza	1840
24	Mary Ann	
25	George Bond	1868
26	Henry Wright Bond	1875
27	Ellizabeth Bond <i>second wife</i>	1884
28	Laura Eliza Read	
29	Mary Ann Wormack	
30	NNB	1818
31	TB	1836
32	Ann Woodrow	1807
33	EY	1869
34	RB	1840
35	MAB	1838
36	JB	1862
37	JO	1888
38	SO	1844
39	James Nurse	1831
40	Lydia Nurse	1833

Notes

2. Nathaniel Tidd was the minister until his death in 1836

4. Jabez Dawson was aged 92 at his death in 1877 according to the 1851 census for Coltishall, Norfolk he was a Baptist Minister (ref. HO107/1810/530). He was born at Loddon, Norfolk.

7-12. These are the entries for the pastor William Ward and his family buried here though he had led a separation of the congregation in 1821-1822.

18-21. Daniel Bayles died in 1869 aged 56 and his burial was registered at the Depwade Registry. He and his family may have been the Bayles family who were millers at Hoxne, Suffolk in 1861 (see RG9/1151/64 p 7).

22. This might be the James Brook whose children births were listed in the register between 1820-1832. He was listed as a malster aged 62 in the 1851 census (ref. H0107/1821/333 p 19).

25-26. George and Henry Bond were the sons of George Bond 'master tailor' listed in the 1851 census (ref. HO107/1821/406). The birth of Henry Wright Bond is recorded in the register on 24 October 1835. George was his younger brother. The family were clearly lifelong Baptists.

Appendix 4. OASIS form

OASIS ID: suffolka1-322709	
Project details	
Project name	Former Baptist Burial Ground, Croft Lane
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation, consisting of the excavation of two 5m x 3m trenches, was carried out on the site of a former 19th century Baptist burial ground at Croft Lane, Diss, Norfolk, at the pre-planning application stage. The combined program of documentary research, trial trench evaluation and recording of extant memorials, despite not fully investigating or exhuming any single burial, suggests that the burial ground at Croft Lane is dense with burials from a depth of at least 0.6m below existing ground-level and in a state of good preservation overall. Individual graves are likely to contain complete skeletal remains and a range of surviving structural remains, coffins and their fittings and possibly textile material. A suggested low end estimate for the number of individuals buried on the site, over a period from c.1790 to c.1890, is 100-120 but could potentially be considerably higher.
Project dates	Start: 06-08-2018 End: 10-08-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ENF 144814 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	GRAVE SLAB Post Medieval
Monument type	GRAVE STONE Post Medieval
Monument type	BURIAL VAULT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	HUMAN REMAINS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	COFFIN Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Documentary Search","Sample Trenches","Visual Inspection"
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Pre-application
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	NORFOLK SOUTH NORFOLK DISS Former Baptist Burial Ground, Croft Lane
Study area	0.37 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 11274 79980 52.376548869668 1.104331384305 52 22 35 N 001 06 15 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 38m Max: 38m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Suffolk Archaeology CIC
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	James Albone

Project director/manager	John Craven
Project supervisor	Linzi Everett
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Conclomeg Construction Ltd
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums Service
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Database","GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums Service
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Plan","Report","Section"
Project bibliography	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Former Baptist burial ground, Croft Lane Diss, Norfolk
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Everett, L.
Other bibliographic details	Suffolk Archaeology CIC Report No. 2018/80
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Suffolk Archaeology CIC
Place of issue or publication	Needham Market, Suffolk
Description	SACIC Evaluation report. A4 bound.

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