

Report 2724



nps archaeology

Archaeological Evaluation at School Farm, Church Road, Cratfield, Suffolk

CRT 026



Prepared for
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Location:	School Farm, Church Road, Cratfield, Suffolk
District:	Suffolk Coastal
Grid Ref.:	TM 3134 7502
Planning Ref.:	(C/09/0219)
HER No.:	CRT 026
OASIS Ref.:	106564
Client:	DRJ & CM Sillett
Dates of Fieldwork:	20- 21 June 2011

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was conducted for D.R.J. & C.M. Sillett in June 2011 ahead of residential development within the grounds of School Farm, Church Road, Cratfield in Suffolk.

Four trenches were opened, three of which exposed ditches of probable post-medieval date, and a ditch or pit of late medieval to early post-medieval date. The linear feature observed in Trench 4 appears to define the line of the former green edge with those in Trenches 2 and 3 indirectly reflecting it (being perpendicular to it).

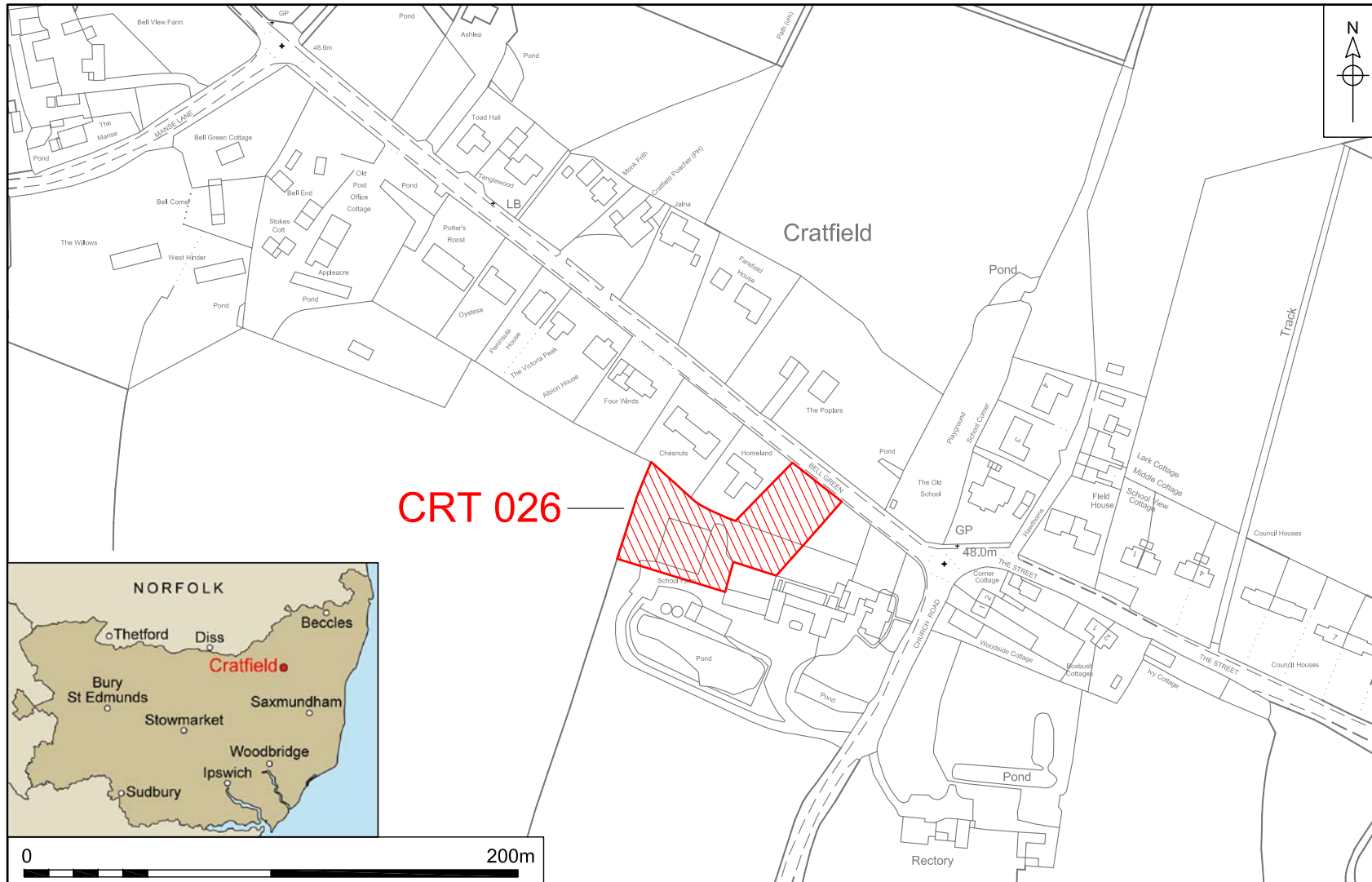
1.0 INTRODUCTION

Land proposed for residential development at School Farm, Church Road, Cratfield, Suffolk lies within the medieval core of Cratfield and on the edge of the village green (Fig. 1). The potential for important medieval settlement remains to be present was identified, and therefore a planning condition for an archaeological evaluation prior to the commencement of works was required. NPS Archaeology excavated four trenches on the site in June 2011, and the following is a report of the results of the evaluation.

The work was undertaken to fulfil a planning condition set by Suffolk Coastal District Council (Ref. C/09/0219) and a Brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCCAS) (Ref. Dr. Jess Tipper, 28 April 2009 PartofSchoolFarm-Cratfield2009revised). The work was conducted in accordance with a Project Design and Method Statement prepared by NPS Archaeology (Ref. NAU/BAU2724/NP). It was commissioned and funded by D.R.J. and C.M. Sillett.

The programme of work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, following the guidelines set out in *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (Department for Communities and Local Government 2010). The results will enable decisions to be made by the Local Planning Authority about the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

The site archive is currently held by NPS Archaeology and on completion of the project will be deposited with the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, following the relevant policies on archiving standards.



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Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:2500

2.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The solid geology in this part of East Anglia is Upper Chalk (BGS 1985). Overlying this is Lowestoft Till, a bluish-grey, sandy, silty clay with erratics of chalk and flint (BGS 1991). The site lies at a height of approximately 48m OD.

The topsoil across Trenches 1-3 was a very friable, dark brown to blackish silt, 0.2m to 0.25m deep and mixed with ceramic building material and concrete rubble. This overlay very stiff, mid-yellowish-brown clay subsoil flecked with chalk and small stones, which was 0.3m to 0.4m deep across much of the site. The natural, undisturbed geological horizon beneath the subsoil was formed of pale beige clay heavily flecked with chalk, over light grey clay, again very heavily flecked with chalk. Pockets of a brownish green-grey sand were also present in this deposit.

The topsoil in Trench 4 was a dark brown crumbly loam garden soil, 0.4m deep. The subsoil and natural layers were the same as those observed in Trenches 1-3, but the level of the surface of the natural dropped towards the south-west where there was a ditch (perhaps formerly a pond).

The weather had been particularly hot and dry prior to the evaluation work and the majority of the deposits exposed were very dry – some hard-baked. Drainage was provided by the above-mentioned ditch.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Suffolk Historic Environment Record was checked for information regarding the history of the village and known sites in the locality.

The site at School Farm lies close to the medieval church of St. Mary and the centre of the medieval village of Cratfield. The north-eastern part of the site, currently laid out to lawn, lies within the former medieval village green as depicted on a map of 1783 (SHER No. CRT 015).

The church of St Mary is of 14th-century date with many 15th-century features (CRT 017 and DSF 10140). A possible medieval moat (CRT 011) has been identified adjacent to the rectory, and there are two further possible moated sites 450-550m to the south and south-east (CRT 006 and 005). Two linear ponds extend north-west to south-east to the south of the proposed development site; they are parallel to the green and inline with CRT 011 (Jess Tipper pers. comm.).

Town House (DSF 12021), adjacent to the church, is a former guild hall, dating from the 15th or early 16th century, and there are a number of other 16th to 17th century buildings (DSF 10099, 10137-9, 12020) within the village.

The likelihood of medieval or early post-medieval remains being present at the developments site was considered to be quite high.

4.0 CARTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

The tithe map and First Edition Ordnance Survey map of the area were consulted, to better enable interpretation of the possible green-edge features located on this site.

The Tithe Map for the parish of Cratfield (Fig. 2) dated to 1839 (SRO Ref. P461/73) shows the area of the green with the area numbered 643 which

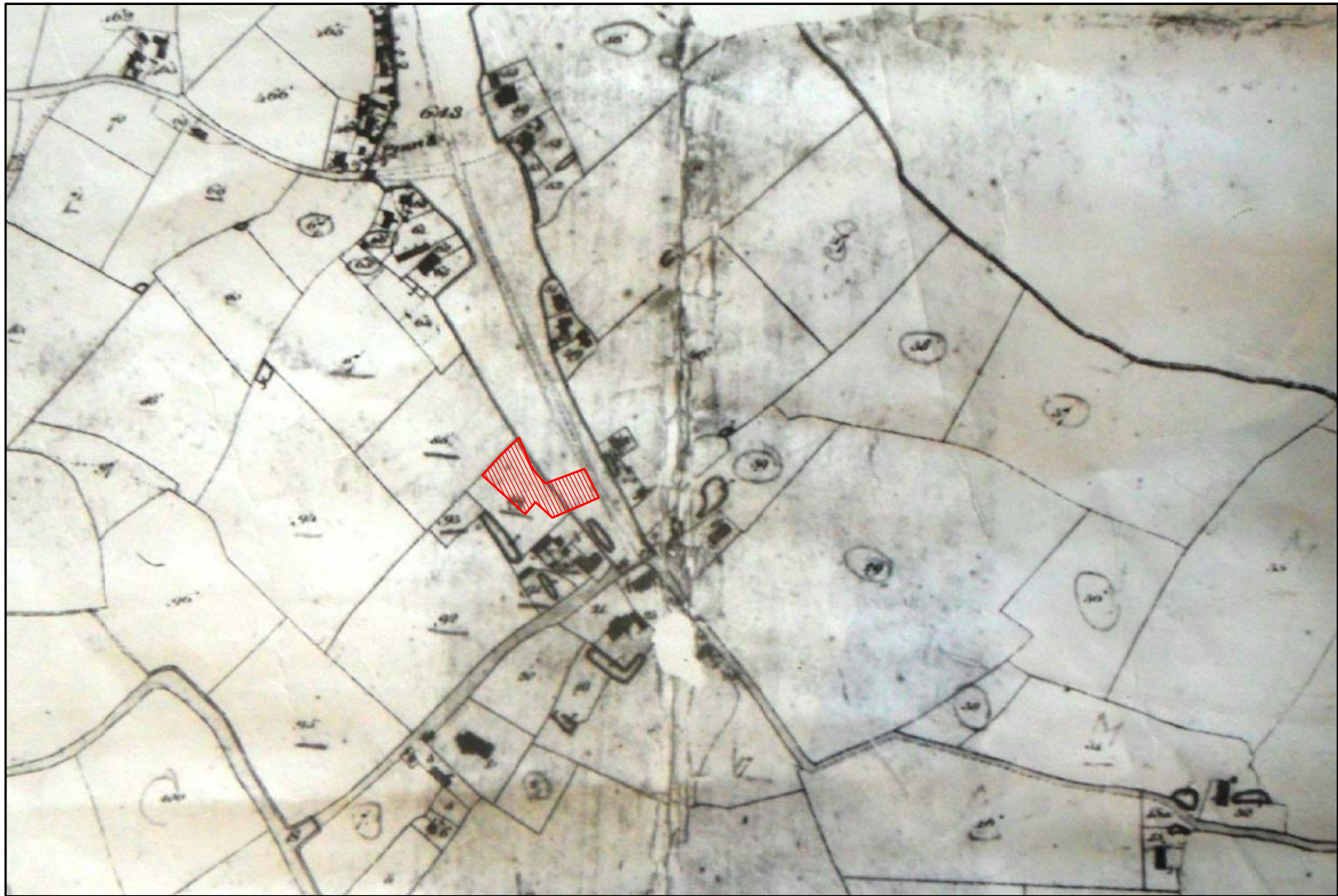


Figure 2. Tithe Map of the parish of Cratfield, 1839

corresponds to a number found on the Apportionment (FDA 73/A1/1a). The entry for 643 within the Apportionment reads as follows:

‘Bell Green on which are 15 common rights, each right consisting of pasturage for a Horse or Cow’

The entry then proceeds to list the owners and occupiers of the Green:

Owners	Occupiers
Robert Woolnough	Robert Woolnough
Samuel Churchyard	Samuel Churchyard
Widow Kingsbury	Joshua Moore
Stephen Barnes	James Kemp
Samuel Bignold	

Table 1. Owners and occupiers of Bell Green in 1839

The proposed development site straddles the green edge and the neighbouring field (which is number 89 on the map). This field has no specific name attached to the entry in the Apportionment, neither does field number 88. The whole area surrounding these fields however and Hempland House (at the junction of Bell Green and Church Road) were owned by William Adair and occupied by George Bayles. (Figure 2 shows the Tithe map orientated with north towards the top right hand corner.)

The First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1884 (Fig. 3) shows that by this time the green has been divided up into smaller plots however the southern edge of the green is reflected in the field boundaries there. Most of the site lies within field numbered 649 on this map, which does not contain any buildings or features of note. The green edge is visible in plot 660 located adjacent to the school, and the wedge-shaped outline of this plot is maintained from 1839 through to 1884 (and through to modern times although it now contains houses).

5.0 METHODOLOGY

The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence or absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

Four trenches were opened on the site (Fig. 2). These were to be 21m in length but all had to be reduced slightly in size due to the constraints of the available space. Machine excavation was carried out with a wheeled JCB-type excavator using a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal-detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds other than those which were obviously modern, were retained for inspection.

Environmental samples were taken from the ditches and pits (Samples <1>-<7>).

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using NPS Archaeology pro forma. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales. Monochrome and digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits where appropriate.

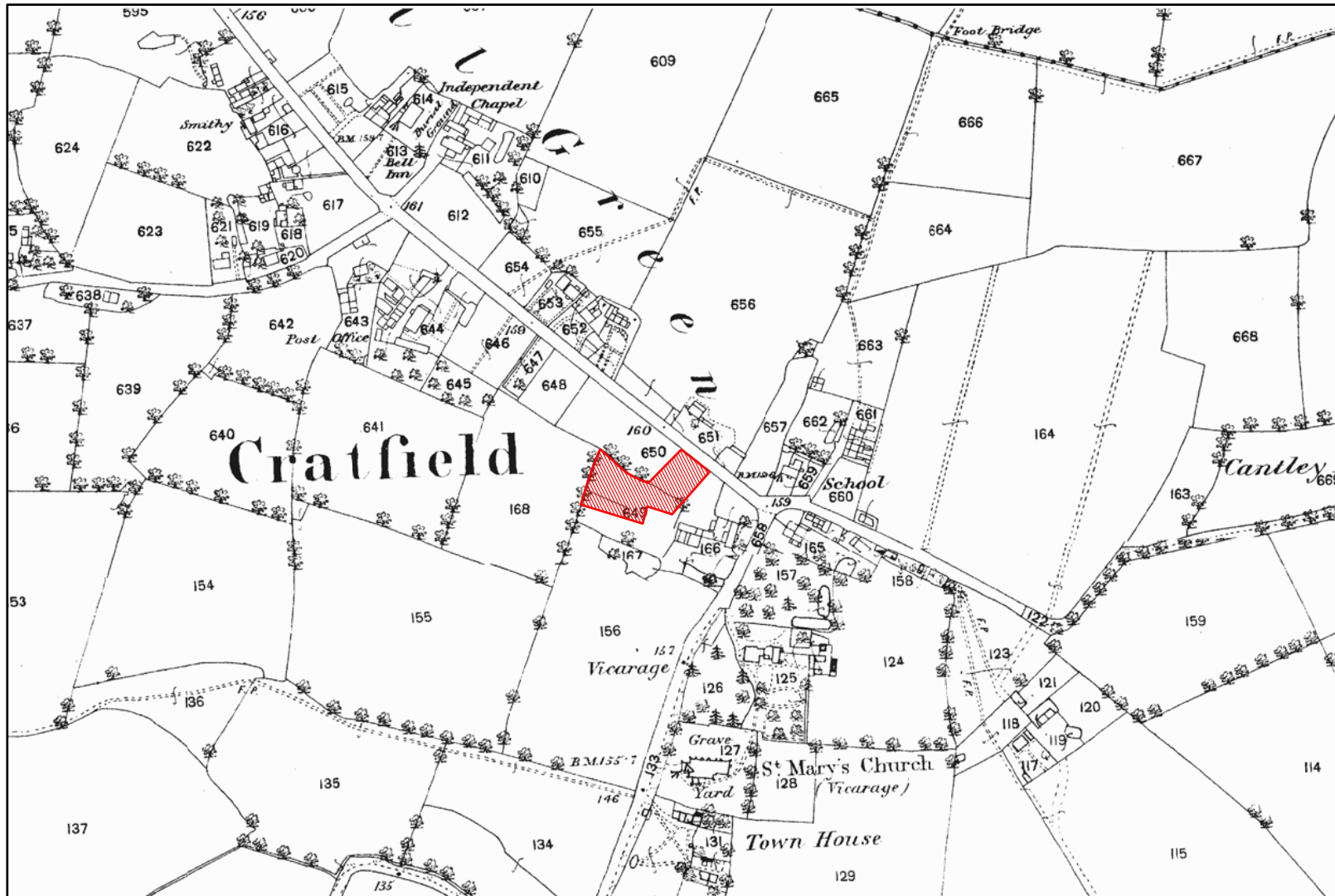


Figure 3. Ordnance Survey 1st Edition, 1884

An Ordnance Survey benchmark with a value of 48m was identified adjacent to the site at the junction of Church Road and The Street.

Site conditions were good, with the work taking place in hot, dry weather.

6.0 RESULTS

The topsoil across Trenches 1-3 was a very friable, dark brown to blackish silt (1), 0.2m to 0.25m deep and mixed with ceramic building material and concrete rubble. This overlay a very stiff, mid-yellowish-brown clay subsoil (2) flecked with chalk and small stones, which was 0.15m-0.3m deep in Trench 1 and 0.4m deep in Trenches 2 and 3. The natural, undisturbed soil (3) beneath the subsoil was formed of a layer of pale beige clay heavily flecked with chalk over a light grey clay again very heavily flecked with chalk with pockets of brownish green-grey sand.

In Trench 4, which was located in the garden area on the north-east side of the site, topsoil (22) was thicker (0.4m in depth) than in the previous trenches and was a much cleaner, more humic deposit of dark brown crumbly loam. The subsoil and natural layers were the same as observed in the other trenches but were given new context numbers ((23) for the subsoil and (24) and (25) for the hard yellow clay that overlay clay (3)).

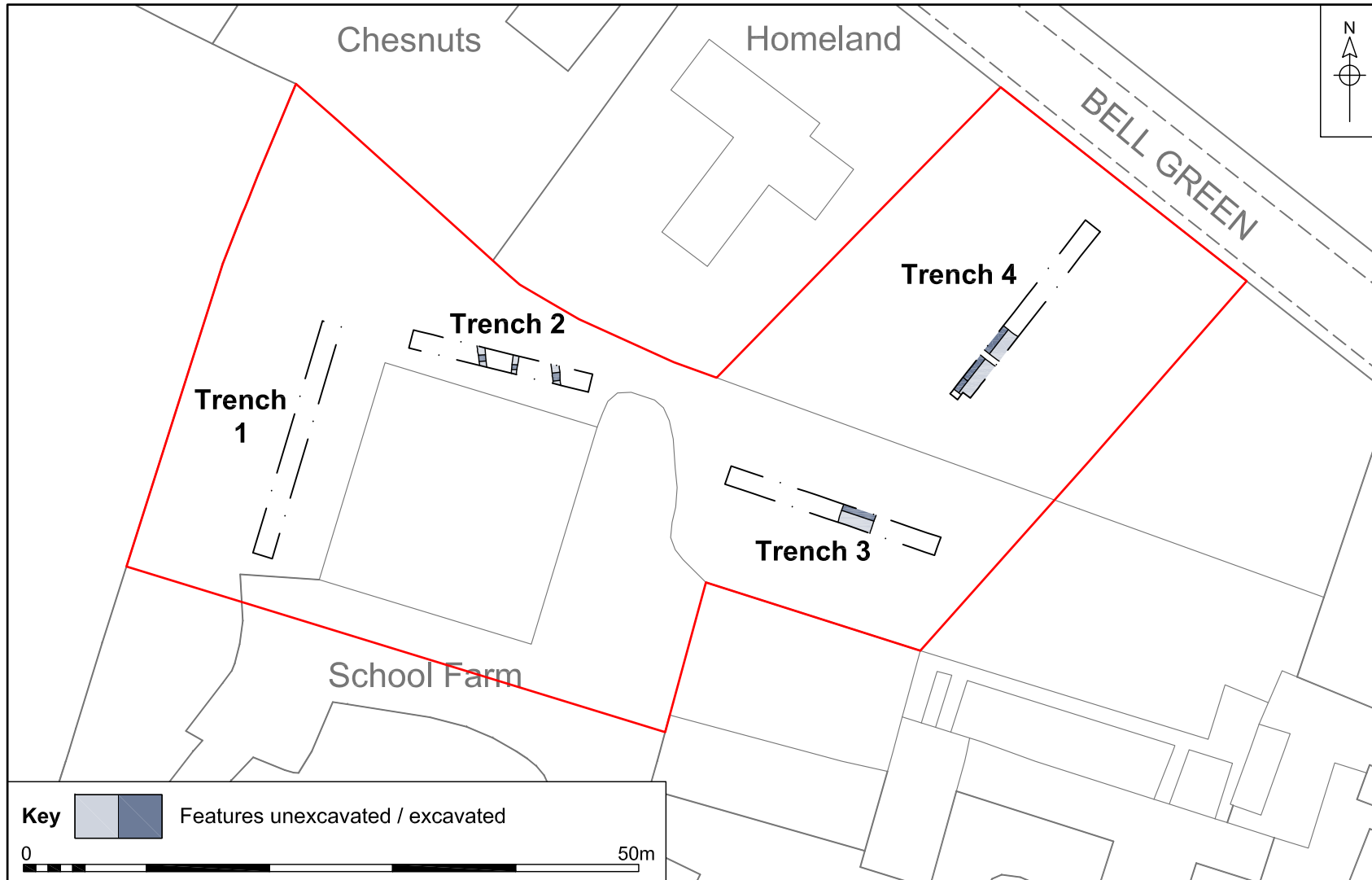
6.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was orientated north-north-east to south-south-west, and was located on the west side of the site to the west of a large barn (Fig. 2, Plate 1). The trench measured 20m in length.

Natural deposits were reached at a depth of 0.4-0.5m beneath the current ground surface. The trench was devoid of archaeological features or deposits.



Plate 1. Trench 1



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Figure 4. Trenches location. Scale 1:500

6.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 measured 15m in length and was located on the east side of the site, east of the large barn, orientated west-north-west to east-north-east (Fig. 2, Plate 2).



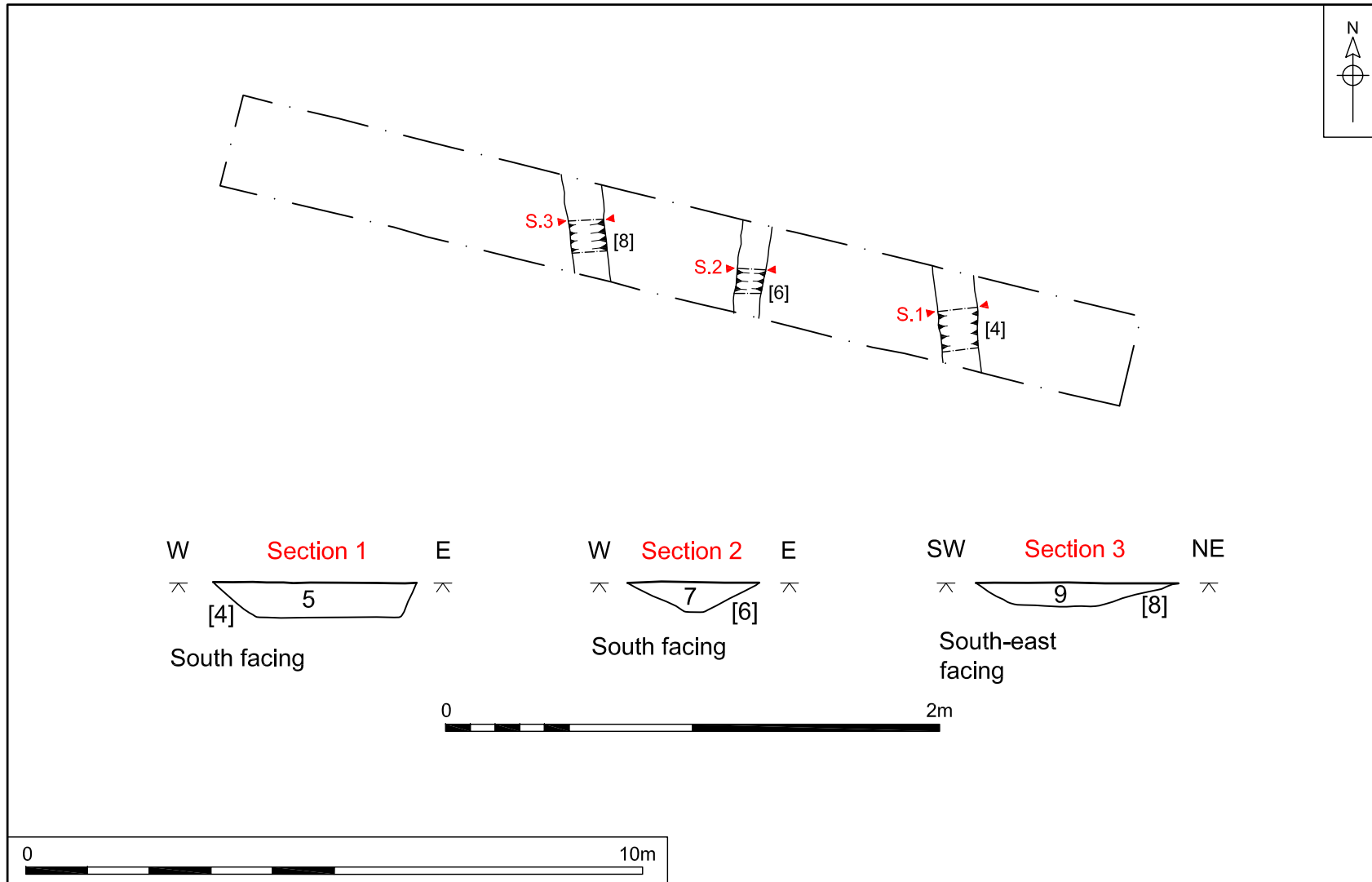
Plate 2. Trench 2

Three shallow ditches were exposed within the trench. Two of these ditches ([4] and [8]) ran parallel to each other in a north-south direction and were 5.5m apart. The third ditch [6] ran north-north-east to south-south-west and was roughly equidistant between the other two (Fig. 3). The alignment of these ditches was roughly perpendicular to what would have been the edge of the green.

Ditch [4] was a shallow feature 0.7m wide at its top but only 0.12m deep (Fig. 3 Section 1, Plate 3). It was filled with a hard, light grey-brown clay (5) containing occasional small and medium-sized sub-angular flint stones. This ditch produced a fragment of painted plaster which could have been either Roman or post-medieval in date.

Ditch [6] was a small, V-shaped ditch only 0.45m wide by 0.1m deep (Fig. 3 Section 2, Plate 4). Its fill (7) was, like feature [4], a hard, light grey-brown clay containing occasional small and medium-sized sub-angular flints. This deposit produced a fragment of clay tobacco pipe dating it to the post-medieval period, as well as an iron nail.

Ditch [8] was 0.7m wide and 0.11m deep (Fig. 3 Section 9, Plate 5). It was filled with a hard, light grey-brown clay (9) containing occasional small and medium-sized sub-angular flint stones. A fragment of animal bone was recovered from the fill; this was not datable but it seems likely, given the similarity between the fills of



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Figure 5. Trench 2, plan and sections. Scale 1:100 and 1:25

the three ditches, that they are broadly contemporary and all of post-medieval date.



Plate 3. South-facing section through ditch [4] in Trench 2



Plate 4. South-facing section through ditch [6] in Trench 2



Plate 5. South-facing section through ditch [8] in Trench 2

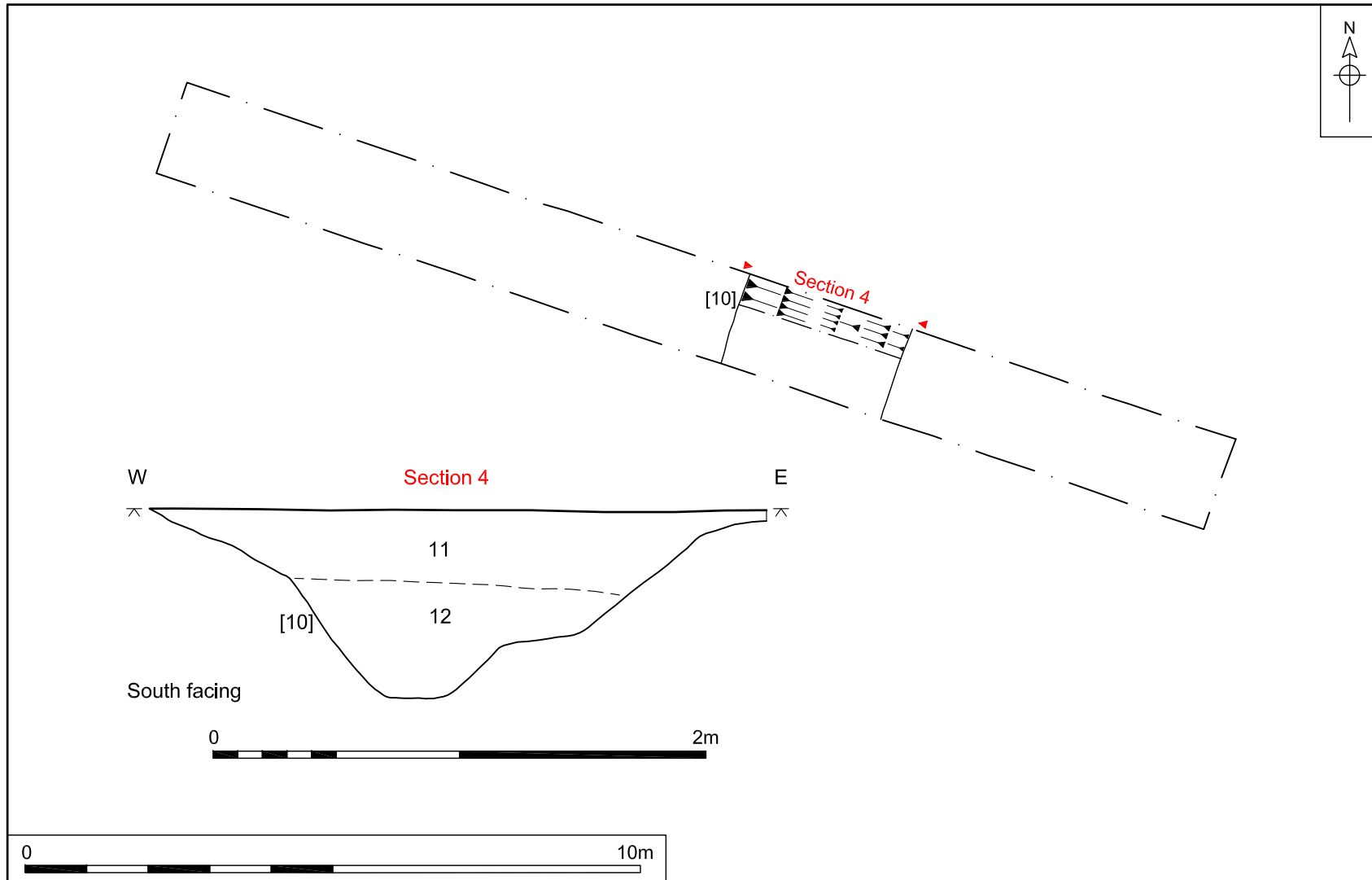
6.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was orientated in a roughly west-north-west to east-north-east direction, to the immediate north of the barn (Fig. 2, Plate 6). The trench was 18m long and contained a single feature (ditch [10]).



Plate 6. Trench 3

Ditch [10] was large and deep, aligned roughly north-south (Fig. 4). The ditch was 2.5m wide at the top and 0.82m deep (Fig. 4 Section 4, Plate 7) and contained two fills. Upper fill (11) consisted of a hard, dark yellow-brown sandy clay 0.32m deep, from which no datable material or finds were recovered. Lower fill (12) was a firm, sticky, blue-grey silty clay, 0.5m deep. This deposit was very wet, particularly towards the base of the feature, and contained animal bone, post-medieval pottery and ceramic building material (CBM), indicating that the infilling of the ditch occurred in the post-medieval period.



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Figure 6. Trench 3, plan and section. Scale 1:100 and 1:25



Plate 7. Section through ditch [10] in Trench 3

6.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was opened in a lawned garden on the north-east of the site (Fig. 2). It was orientated north-east to south-west and measured 16m long (Fig. 5, Plate 8). A short extension measuring 1.5m long and half the trench width was added to the south-west end of the trench to expose more of the feature found there (Fig. 5, Plate 9).



Plate 8. Trench 4 (looking north-east)

Topsoil (22) in Trench 4 (22) was much cleaner and more humic deposit than observed elsewhere on the site. It was a dark brown crumbly loam, 0.4m deep and without the inclusions of modern rubble seen in Trenches 1-3. The subsoil (23) and natural deposits (3)/(24)/(25) were the same as recorded in Trenches 1-3 but sloped down towards the south-west, where there was a deep drainage ditch or old pond. The ground surface here had clearly been levelled in more recent times, when the garden was laid out to lawn (landowner and mechanical excavator driver pers comm).

Large ditch [13] was exposed in the southern half of the trench, aligned north-west to south-east (Fig. 5, Plate 10).

The fill of ditch [13] was a solid, yellow-brown clay (20) (Fig. 5 Section 6) that had become very hard and compact. It contained a large number of animal bones, particularly of cattle.

An animal (identified in post-excavation as a dog) had been buried in the north-eastern edge of this feature. The bones were partially exposed and disturbed during machining of the trench and were collected and assigned a separate context number (14). There was no discernible cut for this burial but it is thought likely that this was a later feature, cut into the ditch fill (20).

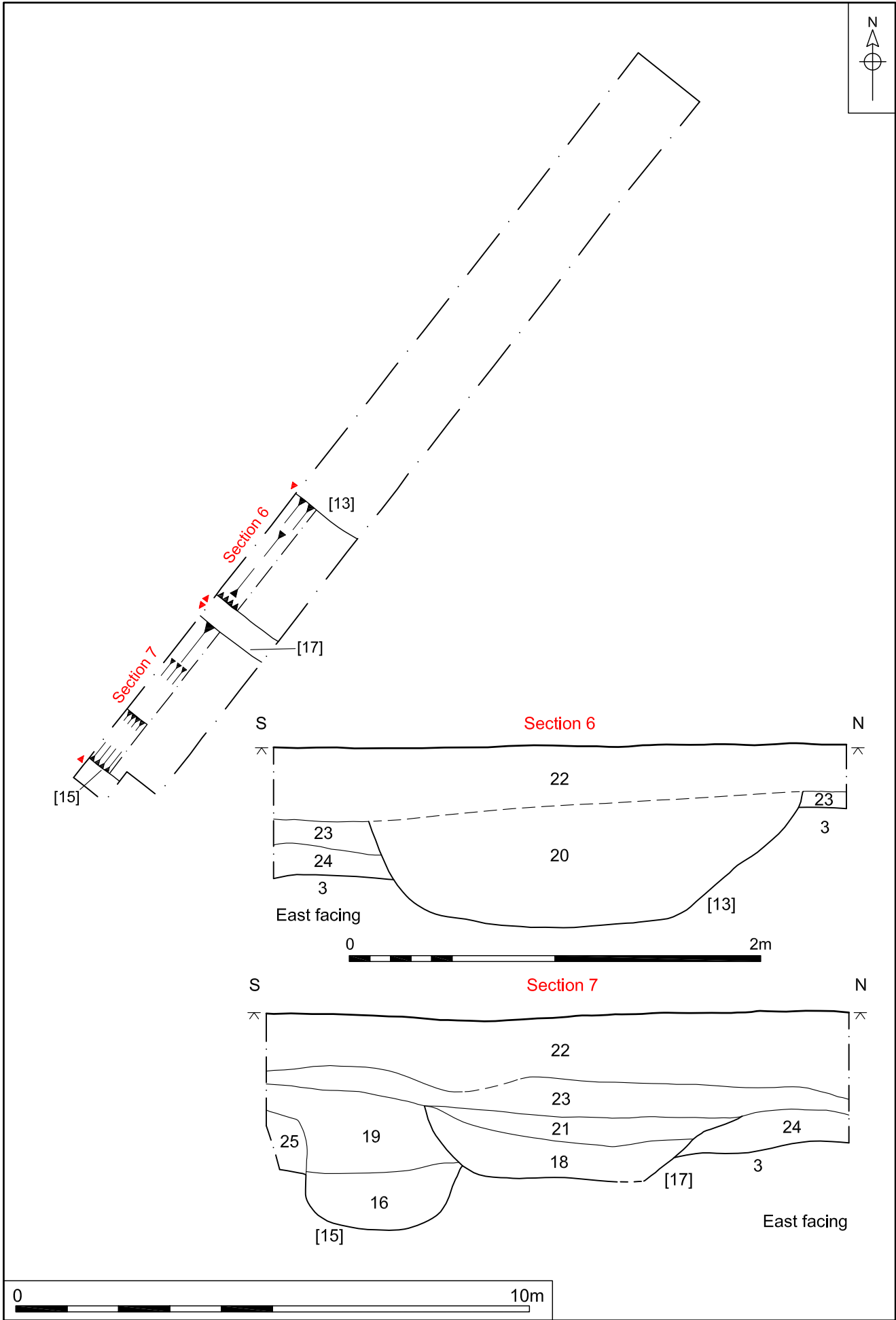


Figure 7. Trench 4, plan and sections. Scale 1:100 and 1:25



Plate 9 Extension of Trench 4



Plate 10. Section through ditch [13] in Trench 4

Two features were identified at the south-west end of Trench 4 and an extension to the trench measuring 0.8m wide by 1.5m long was excavated to expose them more fully (Fig. 5).

The deepest feature was a ditch (or pit) [15] which measured approximately 0.9m wide with steep sides (Fig. 5 Section 7, Plate 11). Its primary fill (16) was a very soft, wet, smooth but gritty, mid-grey clay 0.35m deep which was charcoal-rich and contained pottery and bone. Above this deposit was deposit (19) which was approximately 0.5m deep and consisted of mottled grey and red-brown (iron-coloured), crumbly, silty clay containing a number of stones. If this feature is a ditch (which on balance it appears to be) then it is possible that it may demarcate the edge of the green.

The north-eastern edge of feature [15] had been truncated by a second ditch (or pit) [17] which measured about 1.6m at its widest point and was approximately 0.4m deep (Fig. 5 Section 7; Plate 12). Primary fill (18) was a similar deposit to (19) found in the upper fill of pit/ditch [15] but was slightly darker and browner in colour, with occasional stones. Above deposit (19) was an upper fill of stony, yellowy-brown, clayey silt (21).



Plate 11. Pit [15] in Trench 4



Plate 12. Pit [17] in Trench 4

7.0 FINDS

7.1 Pottery

by Sue Anderson

Four sherds of pottery weighing 53g were collected from two contexts. Table 1 shows the quantification by context.

Context	Fabric	No.	Wt/g	Description	Spotdate
12	GRE	1	6	small brown glazed body sherd	16th-18th c.
16	WVGW	2	41	body sherds of a jug with crudely painted brown slip lines and light green glaze	L.13th-14th c.
	LMT?	1	6	abraded fragment, remains of green glaze ext	L.14th-16th c.
<i>Total</i>		4	53		

Key:

WVGW–Waveney Valley glazed ware; LMT–late medieval and transitional; GRE–glazed red earthenware.

Table 2. Pottery catalogue.

All three fabric types are typical of North Suffolk. A source for the production of Waveney Valley wares has not yet been identified, although given the large number of pottery production sites along the Waveney Valley and around Wattisfield in the Roman and late medieval periods, it seems likely that it was produced in one of the parishes that later became an LMT production site. Similar wares were found in association with LMT wasters at Rickinghall, for example. The LMT from the same context was a micaceous ware and was probably made at Wattisfield or Rickinghall.

The GRE sherd was recovered from the basal fill of ditch [10], suggesting that this feature was filled in the post-medieval period. The two glazed wares from ditch/pit [15] suggest a probable later medieval date for this feature.

7.2 Ceramic building material

by Sue Anderson

Three fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) were collected from ditch fill (12). Two fragments (45g) were abraded pieces of late brick in a red-firing medium sandy fabric with sparse chalk, coarse quartz and ferrous inclusions, and streaks of poorly mixed white clay (fabric 'msx'). The third piece was in a buff-coloured fine sandy fabric with occasional coarse quartz, flint and ferrous inclusions (fabric 'fsffe'). The form is uncertain – it has one flat surface and may be part of a brick, but the density of the piece suggests it may be a fragment of terracotta, possibly of late medieval date. Traces of mortar (or possibly whitewash) adhere to the flat surface.

7.3 Plaster

by Sue Anderson

Ditch fill (5) from feature [4] contained one small fragment (3g) of painted wall plaster. The lime contained medium sandy aggregates and there was a thin skim (c.3mm thick) forming the outer layer. However this outer layer, although smoothed on the surface, did not appear to be any finer than the underlying mortar. The surface is painted with a red wash which is likely to have been made from a natural pigment (although EDXRF analysis would be required to determine the type). Plaster of this type was used in the Roman period, but the fragment could equally be of post-medieval date.

7.4 Clay Pipe

by Lucy Talbot

A single fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem weighing 2g was recovered from context (7), the fill of ditch [6].

7.5 Iron

by Lucy Talbot

Ditch fill (7) produced a single, undatable iron nail, weighing 1g.

7.6 Faunal Remains

by Julie Curl

7.6.1 Methodology

All of the bone was examined to determine range of species and elements present. A note was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning, horn-working and other modifications. When possible a record was made of ages and any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Counts and weights were noted for each context, including species and element group counts. The information was entered into an Excel database. A summary of the data recorded is included in a table in this report and the full database is available in the digital archive. The work was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis 1992).

7.6.2 The assemblage

A total of 874g of faunal remains, consisting of 252 pieces, was recovered from this evaluation (Table 2, Appendix 3). The remains are generally in good sound condition, although they are quite fragmented from wear. Some of the remains from deposit (20) in feature [13] showed strikingly different preservation, with a few fragments showing absorption of iron and these remains had also been gnawed; other bone in this fill was of the same preservation to the rest of the assemblage.

The most frequent species (in terms of number of individual elements or fragments present) in this assemblage is dog. One hundred and thirty fragments of a dog were found in deposit (14), which consists of the rear part of the spine, ribs, pelvis, femurs and one tibia. The robustness and large size of the bones would indicate a breed such as an Alsatian. Other fragments of a similar (or the same?) large dog

were seen in fill (20); again, the size and robustness of the bones would suggest a breed in the size range of an Alsatian.

Species	Feature (fill)					Species Total
	8 (9)	10 (12)	13 (14)	13 (20)	15 (16)	
Cattle				3		3
Dog			130	4		134
Mammal	1	3		94	3	101
Pig/boar		6		3		9
Sheep/goat				5		5
Feature Total	1	9	130	109	3	252

Table 3. Quantification of Number of Individual Species elements Present (NISP) by feature number

Two contexts produced fragments of pig/boar and single contexts yielded remains of sheep/goat and cattle. Many small fragments could not be identified to species and were classed simply as ‘mammal’, but are most likely to be small fragments from the species identified.

Little evidence of butchering was seen. Some chopping had occurred on the porcine and sheep/goat bone from fill (20); this context also produced a large and robust cattle radius that had been cleanly sawn on the shaft.

7.6.3 Conclusions

Much of this assemblage appears to be derived from the remains of working or domestic dogs. A small amount of butchering waste was recovered, but the butchering evidence on one of these bones would suggest more modern methods and waste. The range of preservation within this assemblage would indicate disruption and re-depositing of some of the remains.

Recovery of complete (or what were originally complete) and unbutchered animals is to be expected on farm sites as a result of the deaths and burials of domestic stock. The remains of the majority of the dog bones at this site are associated with post-medieval finds, leading to speculation that these remains could be of a pet, or possibly those of a working farm dog.

The sawn cattle bone suggests waste from a modern, commercially prepared cut of meat. Such sawn remains, particularly of cattle, where more mechanical methods of butchering are often employed to dismember the larger carcass, have been seen elsewhere in post-medieval fills, such as at St Andrews Street, Norwich (Curl 2002) and three similar sawn cattle bones were seen at The Rectory, Caistor-by-Norwich (Curl 2005).

8.0 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

8.1 Plant Macrofossils and Other Remains

by Val Fryer

8.1.1 Introduction and method statement

A number of pits/ditches were recorded at Cratfield none of which were datable at the time of excavation. Samples for the evaluation of the content and preservation of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken, and seven samples (<1>-<7>) were submitted for assessment.

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/wash-over and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in the table in Appendix 4. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). With the exception of a single fragment of mineral-replaced wood, all plant remains were charred. Modern fibrous and woody roots, seeds and arthropod remains were also recorded.

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and sorted when dry. Any artefacts/ecofacts were removed for further specialist analysis.

8.1.2 Results

With the exception of a single fragment of heavily abraded hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell noted within the assemblage from Sample <1> (ditch [4]), charcoal/charred wood fragments are the only plant remains recorded. Preservation is generally quite poor, with the remains being both heavily abraded and covered with a fine coating of mineral concretion. Mineral impregnation is also present in some instances.

Small assemblages of both terrestrial and marsh/freshwater obligate mollusc shells are recorded within three assemblages (Samples <4>, <6> and <7>) with occasional specimens being noted elsewhere. Most shells are moderately well preserved, possibly suggesting that they are reasonably recent in origin, although some specimens are heavily abraded. If it is assumed that the shells are mostly contemporary with the deposits from which the samples were taken, it would appear that ditch [10] and pits [17] and [15] were probably situated within an area of open grassland, although the features themselves were probably shaded/overgrown and at least seasonally damp or wet.

Other remains are scarce, although fragments of coal and black porous and tarry residues, which are probably the bi-products of the combustion of coal, are present within most assemblages. All are probably recently modern in origin. Minute pieces of bone are also recorded from Samples <1>, <2>, <5> and <6>.

8.1.3 Conclusions

In summary, the assemblages are extremely limited and most also appear to contain an unknown degree of modern contamination. Although the few charred plant macrofossils are possibly evidence for nearby human activity, primary deposition of refuse is not represented, with the remains probably being derived from scattered or wind-dispersed detritus.

9.0 CONCLUSIONS

Three of the four trenches produced archaeological remains, mainly linear features.

Of the three shallow ditches in Trench 2, only one contained datable material (which was post-medieval). A second contained a fragment of painted plaster which was identified as either Roman or post-medieval. The third contained animal bone. It is possible that the ditches date from different periods but their morphology and orientation were similar, and they contained fills which appeared to be identical, suggesting that on balance they are all most likely to be of post-medieval date. As the features are so shallow they may relate to earlier cultivation of the land, which is now farmyard. The fact that two of the ditches ([4] and [8]) are of the same width and orientation would suggest that these are contemporary.

The large, post-medieval ditch [10] identified in Trench 3 is likely to have been a former boundary. This ran in an approximate north-south direction and would probably have joined the existing ditched boundary that runs east-west between the garden (site of Trench 4) and the farmyard (where Trenches 1-3 were situated).

The orientation of the ditches in Trenches 2 and 3 (broadly perpendicular to the green edge) could represent property divisions.

Ditch [13] in Trench 4 appears to be a late post-medieval or a modern boundary ditch. It ran parallel to the road and its fill contained a large number of animal bones. The few dog bones identified from the ditch fill were almost certainly disturbed from the separate dog burial (14) set within the ditch. The latter is likely to have been that of a pet or working farm dog and of modern or (at the earliest) late post-medieval date.

The most interesting features were the two pits or ditches ([15] and [17]) at the south-west end of Trench 4. The old ground level dropped at this end of the trench, suggesting that what is now a ditched boundary alongside the garden may once have been a larger feature – perhaps an old pond. Certainly the ground level here has been levelled in modern times.

The earliest feature on the site was ditch (or pit) [15] at the south-western limit of Trench 4. This produced animal bone and two sherds of medieval pottery, along with a sherd of late medieval transitional pottery, suggesting a late medieval or perhaps early post-medieval period date for the feature. It could have been a late medieval ditch into which a certain amount of waste was deposited, or a waste pit mostly filled with organic materials which have decomposed. The fill at the base of the pit/ditch was rich in charcoal and most likely contained deposits from a hearth along with other material. The position and orientation of this feature suggests that it could well be a ditch defining the edge of the green (Figs 2, 3 and 7). Ponds and ditches along green edges are apparent in many Suffolk villages e.g. Great Green, Cockfield (Gill 2007) and Little Green, Norton (Gill 2006).

The north-eastern edge and upper fill of ditch (or pit) [15] was truncated by ditch (or pit) [17] of slightly later date; although the feature produced no finds or datable material sequentially it is likely to be of post-medieval date.

Land and freshwater mollusc shells were recovered from features [15] and [17] as well as from ditch [10] in Trench 3. Environmental analysis of deposits from these features indicates that they had existed within an area of open grassland but would have been wet for at least part of the year. Current conditions on the site echo this; the fills of [15] and [10] were so deep as to still be wet even after several weeks of little to no rain, whilst the fill of pit [17] was also damp.

Coal was present in all features except ditch/pit [15] (the feature of possible medieval date) and black, porous 'cokey' material was present in all except the lower fill of pit or ditch [15] in Trench 4 and the fill of ditch [8] in Trench 2. These inclusions suggest a post-medieval or later date for the majority of features and support the interpretation of feature [4] (from which the fragment of painted plaster came) as a post-medieval feature rather than Roman.

The presence of a number of linear features, which individually do not categorically represent features associated with the medieval green at Cratfield, when combined provide information that helps elucidate how the green was defined and also potentially land divisions contained within.

Recommendations for future work based upon this report will be made by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service.

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The finds were washed and recorded by Lucy Talbot. The post-Roman pottery, ceramic building material and plaster was analysed by Sue Anderson. The clay pipe and iron were reported on by Lucy Talbot and the faunal remains by Julie Curl. Soil processing was carried out by Rob Fryer and environmental analysis by Val Fryer.

The report was edited by Jayne Bown and illustrated and produced by David Dobson.

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Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Cut Type	Fill Of	Description	Period	Trench
1	Deposit			Topsoil	Modern	
2	Deposit			Subsoil	Unknown	
3	Deposit			Natural	-	
4	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Unknown	
5	Deposit		4	Ditch fill	Unknown	
6	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Post-medieval	
7	Deposit		6	Ditch fill	Post-medieval	
8	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Unknown	
9	Deposit		8	Ditch fill	Unknown	
10	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Post-medieval	
11	Deposit		10	Upper fill of ditch [10]	Post-medieval	
12	Deposit			Lower fill of ditch [10]	Post-medieval	
13	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Unknown	
14	Deposit		13	Ditch fill	Unknown	
15	Cut	Ditch/pit		Ditch or pit at south end of Trench	Med/Post-Med	4
16	Deposit		15	Lower fill of ditch or pit [15]	Med/Post-Med	
17	Cut	Ditch/pit		Ditch or pit cutting [15]?	Post-medieval	
18	Deposit		17	Fill of ditch or pit [17]	Post-medieval	
19	Deposit		15	Upper fill of ditch or pit [15]	Med/Post-Med	
20	Deposit			Yellow clay with animal bone	Unknown	

Appendix 1b: OASIS Feature Summary

Period	Feature type	Quantity
Med/Post-Med	Ditch/pit	2
Post-medieval	Ditch	2
Unknown	Ditch	3

Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes
5	Plaster	1	3g	? Roman/ Post medieval	Painted frag
7	Clay Pipe	1	2g	Post-medieval	Stem frag
7	Iron	1	1g	Unknown	Nail
9	Animal Bone	1	2g	Unknown	
12	Pottery	1	6g	Post-medieval	
12	Ceramic Building Material	3	147g	Post-medieval	Brick frags
12	Animal Bone	9	57g	Unknown	
14	Animal Bone	130	247g	Unknown	
16	Pottery	2	41g	Medieval	
16	Pottery	1	6g	Med/Post-Med	
16	Animal Bone	3	14g	Unknown	
20	Animal Bone	109	554g	Unknown	

Appendix 2b: Oasis Finds Summary

Period	Material	Total
Medieval	Pottery	2
Med./Post-Med.	Pottery	1
Post-medieval	Ceramic Building Material	3
	Clay Pipe	1
	Pottery	1
Unknown	Animal Bone	252
	Iron	1
? Roman/ Post medieval	Plaster	1

Appendix 3: Faunal Remains

Context	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Age	Element range	Butchering	Gnaw	R/C/F	Comments
9	1	2	Mammal	1						
12	9	57	Pig/boar	6	j	mand, t, v, ul	ch			
			Mammal	3						
14	130	247	Dog	130	j/sa	v, r, ul, pel,				Majority is fragmented vertebrae and ribs, 2 femurs and pelvis
16	3	14	Mammal	3						
20	109	554	Cattle	3	a	ul, t	s, c			ulna, proximal - sawn proximal mid shaft
			Sheep/goat	5	a	v, ul	ch			distal humerus and vertebrae
			Pig/boar	3	a	ul, t	ch	1	c	distal humerus, has absorbed iron into bone
			Dog	4	4	ul, r				large robust humerus and radius frags
			Mammal	94						Small fragments

Key:

NISP = Number of Individual Species elements Present.

Age = Estimate age based on fusion of bones and tooth wear; a = adult, j = juvenile

Element range: Mand = mandible, t = teeth, v = vertebrae, ul = upper limb, pel = pelvis, r = rib

Butchering: ch = chopped, c + cut, s = sawn

Gnaw = gnawed bone, R = rodent, c = canid, f = feline

Appendix 4: Plant Macrofossils

Sample No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Context No.	5	7	9	12	16	18	19
Feature No.	4	6	8	10	15	17	15
Feature type	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Pit/Ditch	Pit	Pit/Ditch
Plant macrofossils							
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	x						
Charcoal <2mm	xx	x	xx	x	xx	x	x
Charcoal >2mm	x	x	x	x			x
Charred root/stem							x
Mineral replaced wood					x		
Molluscs							
Woodland/shade loving species							
<i>Acanthinula aculeata</i>				x			x
<i>Aegopinella</i> sp.				x		x	
<i>Discus rotundatus</i>				x		x	x
<i>Ena</i> sp.						x	
<i>Oxychilus</i> sp.				x			
<i>Vitrea</i> sp.						x	
Open country species							
<i>Candidula intersecta</i>						x	
<i>Helicella itala</i>						x	
<i>Helicidae</i> indet.						x	
<i>Vallonia</i> sp.			x		x	xx	x
<i>V. costata</i>				x			
<i>V. pulchella</i>						x	xcf
Catholic species							
<i>Cochlicopa</i> sp.						x	x
<i>Nesovitrea hammonis</i>						x	
<i>Trichia hispida</i> group				x		xx	x
Marsh/freshwater obligate species							
<i>Anisus leucostoma</i>				x	x	xxx	xxx
<i>Hippeutis</i> sp.						x	
<i>Lymnaea</i> sp.		x				x	x
<i>Succinea</i> sp.						x	x
Other remains							
Black porous 'cokey' material	x	x		x		x	x
Black tarry material				xx			
Bone	x	x			x	x	
Burnt/fired clay					x	x	x
Mineralised soil concretions						xxxx	x
Small coal frags.	x	x	x	xx		x	

Sample No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sample volume (litres)	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Key to Table:

x = 1–10 specimens xx = 11–50 specimens xxx = 51–100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens
 cf = compare

Appendix 5: Archaeological Specification

Environment and Transport Service Delivery
9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP33 2AR

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Evaluation

PART OF, SCHOOL FARM, CHURCH ROAD, CRATFIELD, SUFFOLK (C/09/0219)

The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety responsibilities.

1. The nature of the development and archaeological requirements

- 1.1 Planning permission (C/09/0219) for the erection of four dwellings and construction of access road (existing dwelling to be demolished) at Part of, School Farm, Church Road, Cratfield, Suffolk (TM 313 750) has been granted by Suffolk Coastal District Council conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (see accompanying plan).
- 1.2 The Planning Authority has been advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins (PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition).
- 1.3 The area of the proposed residential development measures c. 0.30 ha. in size, on the west side of School Road and on the south side of Bell Green (see accompanying plan). It is situated on chalky till (loam to clay) at c. 45 - 50.00m AOD.
- 1.4 The proposed development lies in an area of high archaeological importance recorded in the County Historic Environment Record, within the historic settlement core and on the edge of the medieval green (HER no. CRT 015). There is high potential for medieval settlement deposits at this location, which will be disturbed by this development.
- 1.5 In order to inform the archaeological mitigation strategy, the following work is required:
 - A linear trenched evaluation is required of the development area.
- 1.6 The results of this evaluation will enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified, informing both development methodologies and mitigation measures. Decisions on the need for, and scope of, any further work should there be any archaeological finds of significance will be based upon the results of the evaluation and will be the subject of an additional brief.
- 1.7 All arrangements for the field evaluation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated with the commissioning body.
- 1.8 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.
- 1.9 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR;

telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the WSI as satisfactory. The WSI will provide the basis for measurable standards and will be used to satisfy the requirements of the planning condition.

- 1.10 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination. The developer should be aware that investigative sampling to test for contamination is likely to have an impact on any archaeological deposit which exists; proposals for sampling should be discussed with the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of SCC (SCCAS/CT) before execution.
- 1.11 The responsibility for identifying any constraints on field-work, e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c., ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such constraints or imply that the target area is freely available.
- 1.12 Any changes to the specifications that the project archaeologist may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated directly to SCCAS/CT and the client for approval.

2. Brief for the Archaeological Evaluation

- 2.1 Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.
- 2.2 Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- 2.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- 2.4 Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- 2.5 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.6 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2), all stages will follow a process of assessment and justification before proceeding to the next phase of the project. Field evaluation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential. Any further excavation required as mitigation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential, analysis and final report preparation may follow. Each stage will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design; this document covers only the evaluation stage.
- 2.7 The developer or his archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT (address as above) five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored.
- 2.8 If the approved evaluation design is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected. Alternatively the presence of an archaeological deposit may be presumed, and untested areas included on this basis when defining the final mitigation strategy.

2.9 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

3. Specification: Trenched Evaluation

3.1 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover 5% by area, which is c. 150.00m², before the demolition of the existing dwelling. These shall be positioned to sample all parts of the site. Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.80m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated; this will result in a minimum of 83.00m of trenching at 1.80m in width.

3.2 If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' at least 1.80m wide must be used. A scale plan showing the proposed locations of the trial trenches should be included in the WSI and the detailed trench design must be approved by SCCAS/CT before field work begins.

3.3 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine with a back-acting arm and fitted with a toothless bucket, down to the interface layer between topsoil and subsoil or other visible archaeological surface. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.

3.4 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.

3.5 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation; that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled. For guidance:

For linear features, 1.00m wide slots (min.) should be excavated across their width;

For discrete features, such as pits, 50% of their fills should be sampled (in some instances 100% may be requested).

3.6 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.

3.7 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. The contractor shall show what provision has been made for environmental assessment of the site and must provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from J. Heathcote, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.

3.8 Any natural subsoil surface revealed should be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Sample excavation of any archaeological features revealed may be necessary in order to gauge their date and character.

- 3.9 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.
- 3.10 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed SCCAS/CT during the course of the evaluation).
- 3.11 Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. However, the excavator should be aware of, and comply with, the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.
- 3.12 Plans of any archaeological features on the site are to be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum. Any variations from this must be agreed with SCCAS/CT.
- 3.13 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies and/or high resolution digital images.
- 3.14 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.
- 3.15 Trenches should not be backfilled without the approval of SCCAS/CT.

4. General Management

- 4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by SCCAS/CT. The archaeological contractor will give not less than five days written notice of the commencement of the work so that arrangements for monitoring the project can be made.
- 4.2 The composition of the archaeology contractor staff must be detailed and agreed by this office, including any subcontractors/specialists. For the site director and other staff likely to have a major responsibility for the post-excavation processing of this evaluation there must also be a statement of their responsibilities or a CV for post-excavation work on other archaeological sites and publication record. Ceramic specialists, in particular, must have relevant experience from this region, including knowledge of local ceramic sequences.
- 4.3 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are available to fulfill the Brief.
- 4.4 A detailed risk assessment must be provided for this particular site.
- 4.5 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 4.6 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

5. Report Requirements

- 5.1 An archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1).

- 5.2 The report should reflect the aims of the WSI.
- 5.3 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 5.4 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given. No further site work should be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established.
- 5.5 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.
- 5.6 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including an assessment of palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 5.7 The results of the surveys should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the County Historic Environment Record (HER).
- 5.8 A copy of the Specification should be included as an appendix to the report.
- 5.9 The project manager must consult the County HER Officer (Dr Colin Pendleton) to obtain an HER number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.
- 5.10 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*.
- 5.11 The project manager should consult the SCC Archive Guidelines 2008 and also the County HER Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive.
- 5.12 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure the proper deposition (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>).
- 5.13 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner/developer to the deposition of the finds with the County HER or a museum in Suffolk which satisfies Museum and Galleries Commission requirements, as an indissoluble part of the full site archive. If this is not achievable for all or parts of the finds archive then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate. If the County HER is the repository for finds there will be a charge made for storage, and it is presumed that this will also be true for storage of the archive in a museum.
- 5.14 The site archive is to be deposited with the County HER within three months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 5.15 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project (whether it be evaluation or excavation) a summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology*, must be prepared. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 5.16 County HER sheets must be completed, as per the County HER manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.

- 5.17 Where appropriate, a digital vector trench plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the County HER. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.
- 5.18 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 5.19 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the County HER. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

Specification by: Dr Jess Tipper

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Tel: 01284 352197

Date: 28 April 2009

Reference: / PartofSchoolFarm-Cratfield2009revised

This brief and specification remains valid for six months from the above date. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the authority should be notified and a revised brief and specification may be issued.

If the work defined by this brief forms a part of a programme of archaeological work required by a Planning Condition, the results must be considered by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council, who have the responsibility for advising the appropriate Planning Authority.