

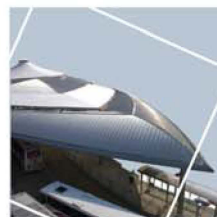
Report 3098



nps archaeology

## Archaeological Excavation at Oak House Farm, Mill Street, Gislingham, Suffolk

GSG 041



**Prepared for**

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Location:	Oak House Farm, Mill Street, Gislingham, Suffolk
District:	Mid Suffolk District Council
Grid Ref.:	TM 072 718
Planning Ref.:	2892/11
HER No.:	GSG 041
OASIS Ref.:	137904
Client:	Orchard Developments (East Anglia) Limited
Dates of Fieldwork:	11-27 July 2012

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## **Summary**

*An archaeological excavation was conducted for Orchard Developments (East Anglia) Limited ahead of the construction of new dwellings at Oak House Farm, Mill Street, Gislingham in Suffolk. The work followed trial trench evaluation of the site carried out in April 2012. Two ditches recorded at the site may have originally formed part of two medieval enclosures which fronted onto and respected the alignment of Mill Street.*

*The combined results of the evaluation phase and the excavation suggest that the slightly larger, north-west to south-east aligned ditch was probably maintained until the 15th-16th centuries and then filled up during the 17th-18th centuries when it ceased to become a feature of the landscape.*

*A clay extraction pit and a pond (which may also originally have been an extraction pit) appeared to have been excavated sometime in the 15th-16th centuries. This date appears to coincide with the abandonment of the north-west to south-east aligned ditch and therefore may have heralded a change in landuse from, perhaps, the keeping of stock to a more liminal one of quarrying and waste disposal.*

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

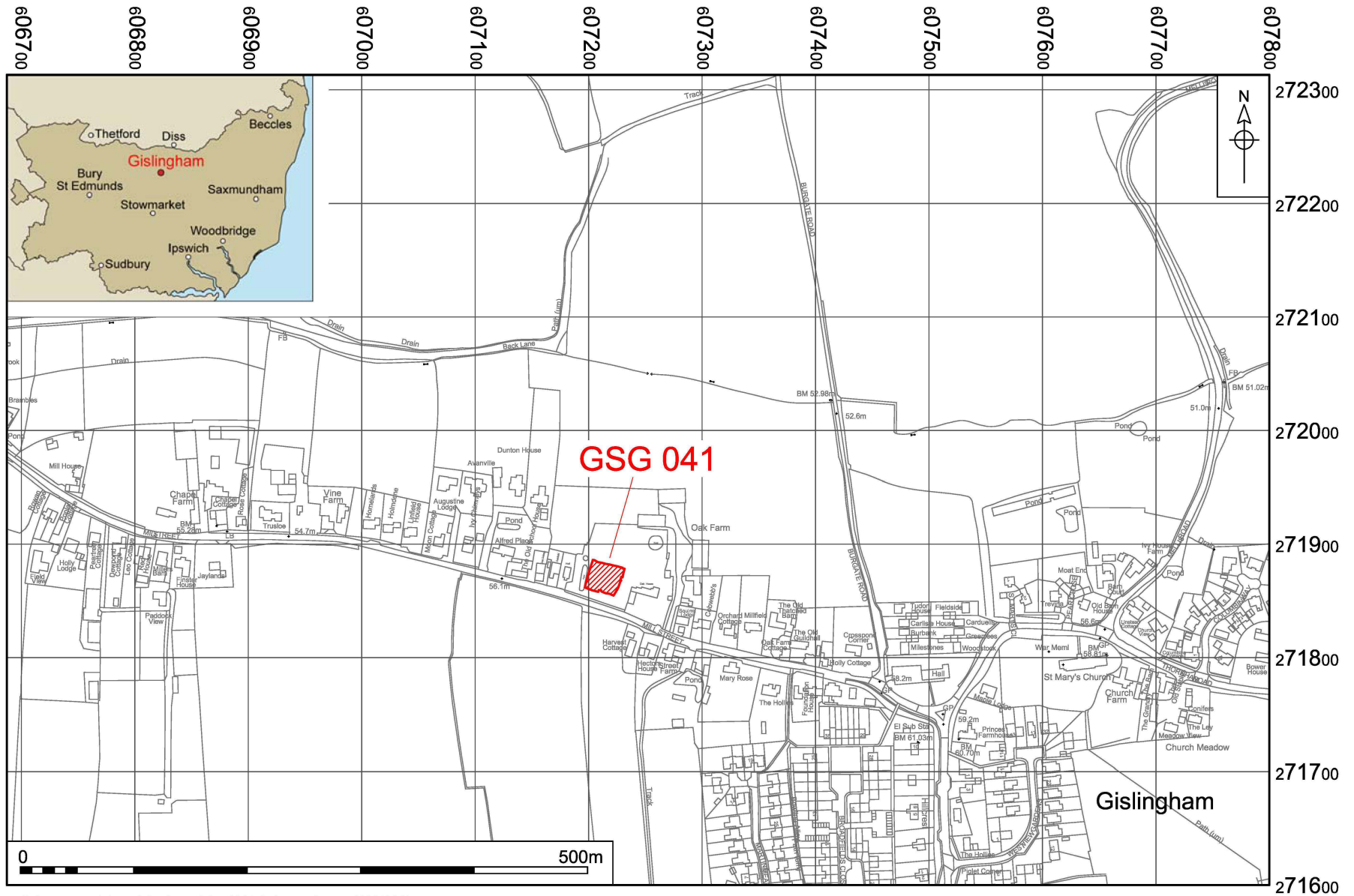
A proposal (Planning Ref: 2892/11) to construct new dwellings at Oak House Farm, Mill Street, Gislingham, Suffolk (TM 072 718) (Fig. 1) prompted the requirement for a programme of archaeological excavation to mitigate the potential impact of the development on the archaeological resource, in accordance with the principles set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government 2012).

Based on the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken in April 2012 Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCCASCT) requested that the footprint of the proposed new dwellings, garages and access road be subject to archaeological excavation.

NPS Archaeology were invited by Orchard Developments (East Anglia) Limited to undertake the programme of archaeological work to fulfil the archaeological mitigation requirements of SCCASCT.

### **Background**

The proposed new dwellings are located within the historic core of the medieval village of Gislingham. Mill Street is occupied by many Listed Buildings and



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Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:5000

medieval building materials have been recovered from the immediate vicinity of the proposed development site.

Archaeological evaluation trenching undertaken in April 2012 revealed the presence of a number of medieval and post-medieval ditches that probably represent property boundaries. Several undated pits were also noted, these were also thought to be medieval or post-medieval in date.

## **Objectives**

The objective of the proposed programme of works is to recover information relating to the extent, date, phasing, character, function, status and significance of the former activity on the site.

Period resource assessments set out in the document *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties* (Glazebrook 1997; Brown and Glazebrook 2000) pose specific research questions for periods ranging from the palaeolithic to the modern period. Existing information indicates that the proposed development site has the potential to contain archaeological features and other forms of evidence of medieval and post-medieval date related to the development of settlement in the village of Gislingham.

This work was undertaken to fulfil planning requirements set by Mid Suffolk District Council (Ref. 2892/11) and Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team.

The work was conducted in accordance with a Project Design and Method Statement prepared by NPS Archaeology (Ref. NAU/BAU3098/DW). This work was commissioned and funded by Orchard Developments (East Anglia) Limited.

This 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 *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government 2012).

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

## **2.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

The underlying geology consists of crag group - sand, sedimentary bedrock which formed up to five million years ago in the Quaternary and Neogene periods in an environment previously dominated by shallow seas. The superficial geology is described as Lowestoft formation diamicton which formed when Ice Age conditions predominated up to two million years ago ([http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer\\_google/googleviewer.html](http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html)).

The specific topsoil at the site consists of a dark grey sandy and clayey silt with occasional flints. The subsoil is a thin, mixed yellow, silt clay which, could more accurately be described as a layer of mixed natural deposits. The specific natural substratum is a stiff yellow clay with occasional flint gravel and chalk patches.

The site slopes slightly from south to north and there are various undulations caused by localised landscaping and the presence of ponds on the site. There was originally a lower lawn situated at the northern end of the plot which was

anecdotally separated from the southern portion of the site by a Ha-ha. There are trees and scrub around the edges of the plot.

The site lies at a height of around 56.0m OD and various unnamed open water courses run through the village 150m to the north of the site.

### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

A search of information held by the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) was undertaken and the most relevant entries are reproduced below in order to put the site into an historical context.

#### **Prehistoric to Roman**

Only two find-spots of Roman date lay close to the site.

At the south end of the village, SHER entry GSG 015 refers to the finding of a Roman Bronze finger ring which contained a blue intaglio depicting an eagle.

To the east of the site, towards the centre of the village, site GSG Misc records the metal-detected recovery of a button and loop fastener.

#### **Anglo-Saxon to medieval**

The overwhelming majority of the SHER entries for the area of Gislingham represent sites and findspots of Saxon-medieval date.

There have been several small archaeological projects undertaken around the village of Gislingham, which have revealed evidence of medieval activity. To the south-east of the development site the monitoring of footing trenches (ESF 19399) revealed a single medieval pit and two undated ditches. Similar monitoring at site ESF 19663 revealed no archaeological features (but disturbed boulder clay was noted). A medieval pit was recorded during an evaluation at site GSG 027.

The Village church of St Mary (GSG 019) was of relevance to the current site as it is located to the east, close to the centre of the village. The church had a medieval foundation although many of the changes made to it were carried out in the 17th century. For example the tower was constructed of red brick in 1639. The church had a decorated chancel and a double hammer-beam roof. Inside the church there are inscriptions commemorating the Chapman family and a monument to Anthony Bedingfield, a London merchant who purchased two manors and who died in 1652. Part of a medieval floor surface was found during restoration work in 1991.

Some 300m to the east of the development site is the remains of a moat (GSG 008) located to the west and north-west of Ivy House Farm.

Just to the east of the village there is a possible small moated site (GSG 020) in a field to the north of Spring Farm. Putative crofts observed on aerial photographs from the 1970s have been logged close by to the south at GSG 018. There is a record (GSG 024) of 'a fair amount of pottery' found during construction works reasonably close to the development site. The date of this pottery is unknown - it was never seen - although there is a high probability that it was medieval. At the south end of the village at GSG 010 is a possible ploughed-out moat. This feature is associated with a metalwork scatter found in 2003. Site GSG 003 to the west of the development site records the position of part of a large moat. Also to the west of the site sherds of 13th-century pottery and a parliament shilling were unearthed

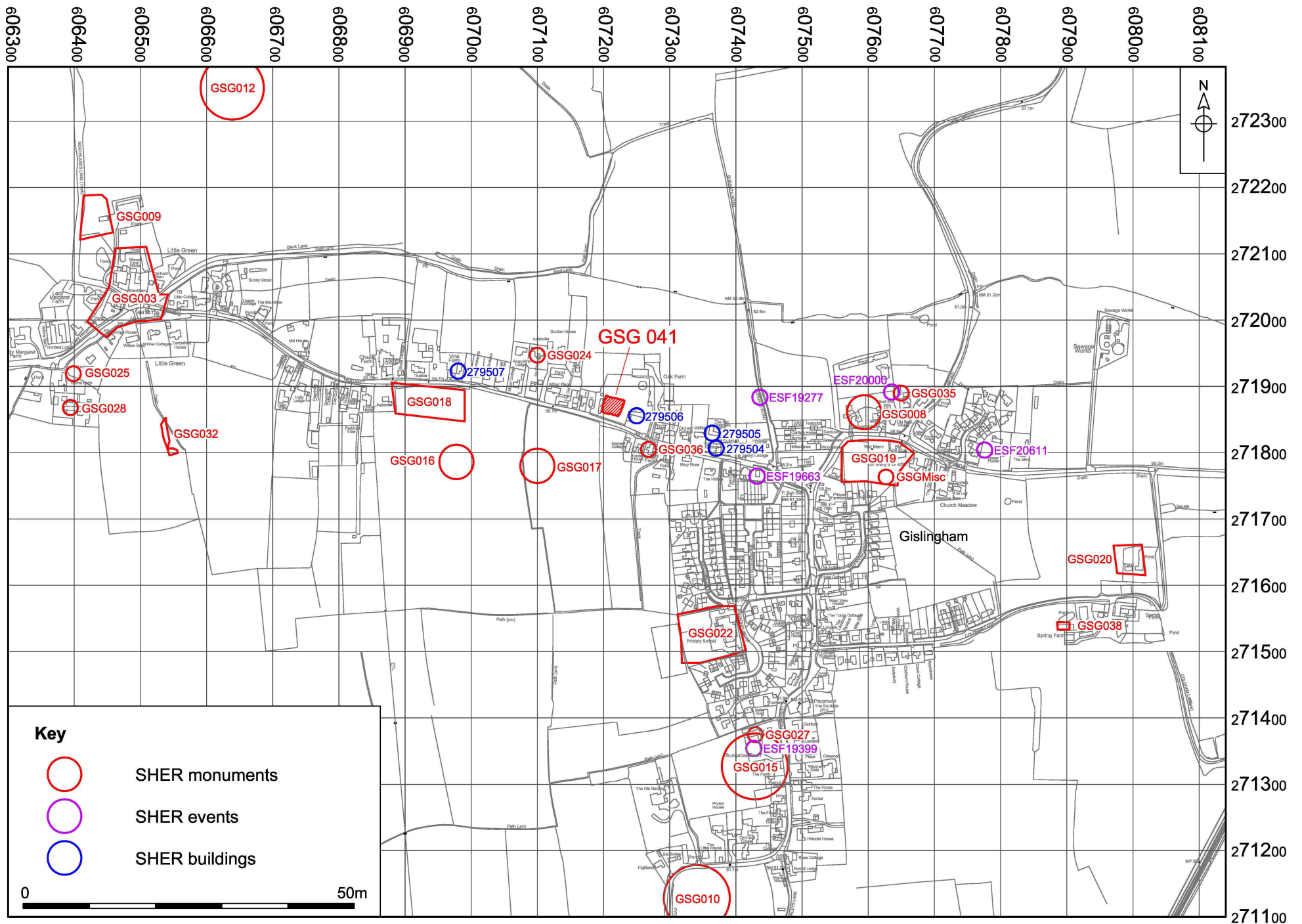


Figure 2. Sites in the vicinity of the development recorded in the Suffolk HER. Scale 1:7500



(GSG 012). Further segments of moat have been located (records GSG 009 and GSG 032) observed on Ordnance Survey maps of the 1880s and 1900s. Other traces of medieval building materials may also have been noted here along with sherds of early medieval to Tudor pottery.

The local well-known archaeologist Basil Brown undertook several small pieces of work and observations around the village. On the opposite side of Mill Street, Basil Brown observed debris from medieval buildings within a drainage trench (GSG 017). In the adjacent field he found similar remains (GSG 016) after an episode of deep ploughing including large stones, chalk and building clay with associated pottery, although this pottery could not be collected in sufficiently large amounts to securely date the remains. Perhaps of most interest was Brown's suggestion that there was a Preceptory of the Knights Templar at Gislingham. During excavation in the vicinity of Northlands Lane (site GSG 003 in an area once known as Temple Close Field) he identified areas of rammed clay, stone floors grouted in clay, wall footings, building debris and 13th-century pottery. (The location of an alternative site is suggested at GSG 002 (not located on Figure 2)). Historical sources record that the Knights Templar did have a base in Gislingham e.g. a fine was issued in 1224-5 between John and Alice Longus and Brother Alan Martell, master of the Knights Templar. In 1305-6 another Brother, Thomas de Staunford is recorded as being 'preceptor domus milicie Templi' at Gislingham. Further records of 1313-4 mention the 'Late Templar's manor' - which had probably been dissolved in 1308. The manor is recorded as being devastated in 1338 with the land thereafter being passed to the Knights Hospitallers some 11 mile south at Battsford.

A 15th-century timber-framed open hall house (GSG 038) is situated to the south-east of the site.

### **Post-medieval to modern**

There are few post-medieval sites recorded in the area. At the centre of the village site ESF 20000 records monitoring undertaken in advance of the construction of a new dwelling. The works revealed a small possible pit, a post-hole and a possible floor level. Similar monitoring to the west of the site (GSG 025) revealed a single undated pit. SHER entry GSG 035 records monitoring which revealed two post-medieval cut features.

At the eastern end of Mill Street was an early 19th-century barn with associated buildings (GSG 036).

Unsurprisingly there are a number of historic buildings located in the village of Gislingham and several are situated close to the development site. Many more are present throughout the village, but only a few are considered to relevant to the present work (due to their close proximity). All of these are Grade II listed.

Oak House (SHER 279506) is located just to the east of the development site in the adjacent plot. It is a plastered and roughcast timber-framed building built in the 17th century. Just to the south of this, on the south side of Mill Street is Street Farmhouse (SHER 279499), a 16th-century (possibly earlier in part) timber-framed structure. Along Mill Street is a mid 16th-century barn (SHER 279505) with a timber-framed core and later alterations. The adjacent property is the former unit house or service range to The Old Guildhall (SHER 279504). It has a timber-framed core, was partly altered in the 17th century and is now a house.



Just a short distance away to the west of the development site, SHER 279507 records another historic property of 17th-century date (Vine Farm)

### **Undated**

At the centre of the village, ESF 19277 records an archaeological evaluation with negative results which was undertaken in advance of the construction of six new dwellings and associated car parking at Burgate Road.

Further east within the village, two evaluation trenches (ESF 20611) were excavated although they did not reveal any features or finds of archaeological interest.

At another site within the centre of the village, four trenches were excavated which found no archaeological features (GSG 022).

To the west of the development site an evaluation to the rear of Home Farm, Mill Street, Gislingham was also negative and monitoring of footings here (GSG 028) revealed a single undated drainage ditch.

## **4.0 METHODOLOGY**

The objective of this excavation was to record archaeological features and deposits within the footprint of the proposed development.

The Brief required that the footprint of the proposed new dwellings, garages and access road (an area of c.725m<sup>2</sup>) be subject to archaeological excavation (Fig. 3, Plate 1).

Machine excavation was carried out with a wheeled JCB-type excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket and operated under constant archaeological supervision.

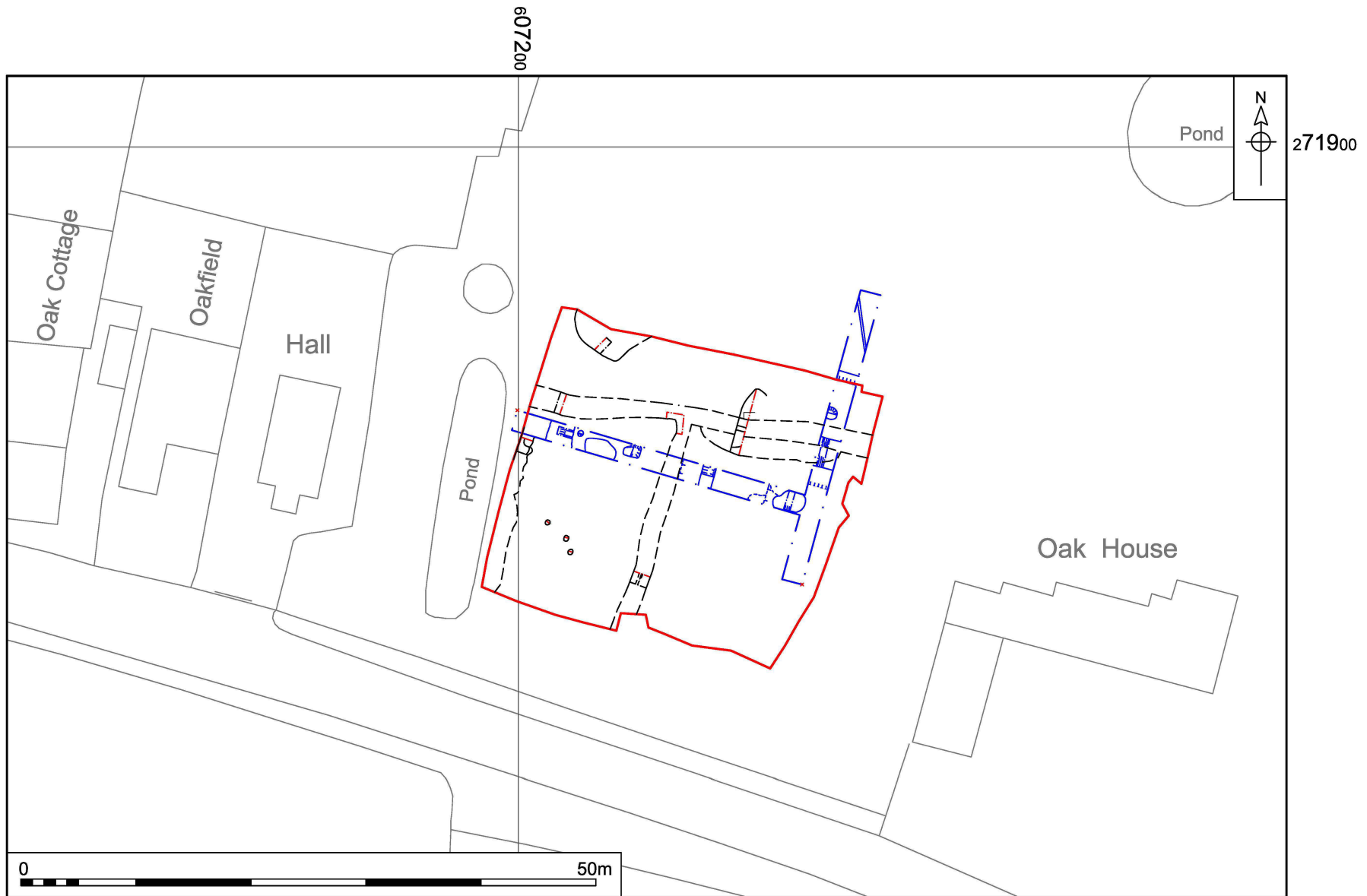
Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal-detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds other than those which were obviously modern, were retained for inspection.

Environmental samples were taken from the fill of a possible animal drinking platform [23] and from the lower fill of a probable extraction pit [26].

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

The exact locations of the archaeological features, edge of excavation and all levels (m. OD) were established using a Leica 900 RTK Rover.

Site conditions were poor, with the machine stripping of the site taking place in wet weather. This resulted in very soft and wet conditions underfoot and the formation of areas of standing water especially on the northern lower lying portion of the site.



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Figure 3. Location of excavation. Scale 1:500

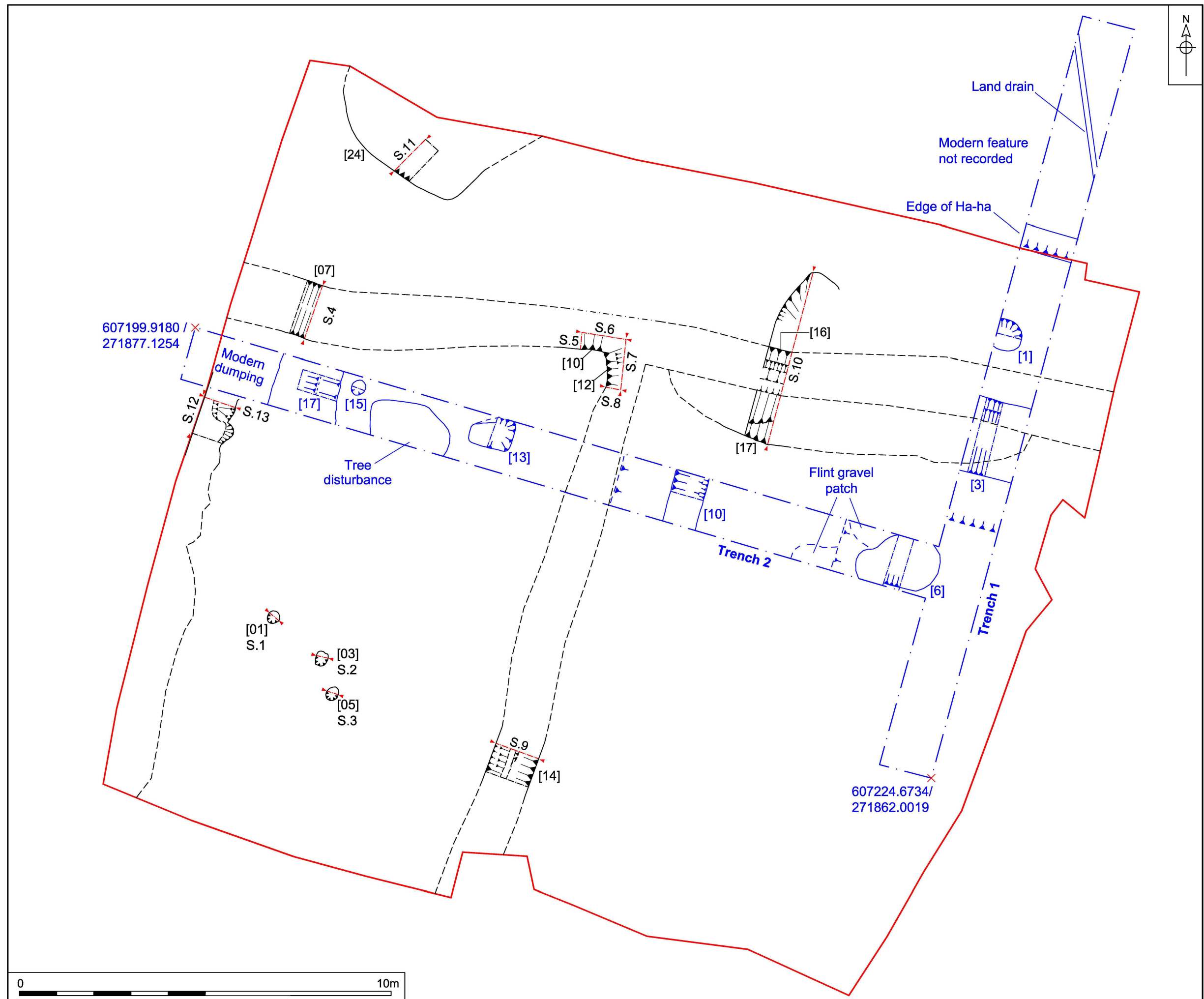


Figure 4. Plan of excavation with evaluation results shown in blue. Scale 1:100

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## 5.0 RESULTS

A total of eight archaeological features of interest were identified and recorded during the excavation. These comprised two ditches, a possible animal drinking platform associated with one of the ditches, three possible post-holes, an extraction pit and a pond (Figs 4 and 5).

The ditches and the pond were recorded during the trial trench evaluation phase of the work along with three other undated pits and a pit of probable 13th- to 14th-century date.



Plate 1. General site shot facing east

### 5.1 The Ditches

The earlier of the two ditches ([12]=[14]) was aligned on a north-east to south-west orientation and was positioned perpendicular to Mill Street. A 19m length of the feature was available for inspection within the excavation area. The ditch extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south-west and formed an approximate 'T'-junction with a larger ditch towards the north-east end of the site.

Two segments of this ditch were examined during the excavation phase ([12] and [14]) in addition to the one excavated during the evaluation.

The southernmost intervention ([14]) revealed the ditch to be a maximum of 1.52m wide and 0.65m deep at this point (Plate 2). The profile was 'V'-shaped with a flattish base (Fig. 5 Section 9). The single fill [15] consisted of a firm, mid greyish brown silt clay with moderate quantities of flint and chalk gravel. Sixteen pottery sherds dating to between the 12th and 14th centuries (13th- to 14th-century spot date) were recovered from the deposit along with an iron horseshoe of probable



13th- to 14th-century date, a piece of fired clay (which may be daub) and two fragments of butchered sheep or goat bone.



Plate 2. South-west facing section of ditch [12]=[14] facing north

The northernmost intervention [12] was positioned at the junction with the larger east to west ditch [10] (Fig. 5 Sections 7 and 8). Here the feature was 0.74m deep with steep sides and a flattish base. The fill [13] was the same firm, mid greyish brown silt clay with flint and chalk. No finds were retrieved from this intervention.

The ditch was recorded during evaluation of the site (midway between the interventions during the present work) and displayed a similar profile and dimensions. A large quantity of 13th- to 14th-century pottery was recovered from the fill. It would seem likely that this material had been deliberately redeposited into the ditch.

The northernmost intervention established that the ditch had been truncated by a larger north-west to south-east aligned ditch ([07]=[10]=[16]) at its northern end.

The feature was positioned approximately parallel to Mill Street and extended beyond the limit of excavation to both the north-west and south-east, a distance of c.29.50m (Fig. 5). Three sondages were excavated through the ditch during the present work in addition to the one during the evaluation phase.

The westernmost intervention [07] revealed the ditch to be 1.95m wide, 0.45m deep and to have gently sloping sides and a concave base at this point (Fig. 5 Section 4). Two fills were identified. The lower fill [09] was a waterlogged, mid grey sandy clay with frequent flint and chalk gravel and occasional larger flint stones representing natural silting of the feature.



The upper fill [08] was 0.25m thick dark yellow brown sandy clay containing a small quantity of flint stones and some chalk flecking. Finds from this deposit comprised two fragments of butchered pig or boar bone and a cockle shell.



Plate 3. Oblique shot of ditch ([07]=[10]=[16]) and drinking platform [17] facing north-east

At the location of the central sondage [10] the ditch was 1.30m wide and 0.40m deep (Fig. 5 Sections 5-7). The profile was more 'U'-shaped here with slightly steeper sides than observed to the west. The single fill [11] was dark yellow brown sandy clay containing occasional flint stones and some chalk flecking.

Four fragments of post-medieval ceramic building material, a fragment from a post-medieval glass vessel, three undated iron sheet fragments, an undated possible lead weight, and a prehistoric struck flint were collected. Three pottery sherds were also recovered and dated to the Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods. Some of the earlier material was plainly re-deposited, the deposit very probably being introduced to the ditch in the 16th-18th centuries.

The easternmost of the interventions dug through [17] during the excavation showed the ditch to be 1.80m wide, a maximum of 0.66m deep and to have a 'U'-shaped profile (Plate 3). Four fills were identified at this point; the primary fill [22] was a 0.20m thick, soft, wet, pale-mid silver grey clay silt. A single piece of pig/boar bone was retrieved from the deposit. The fill represented a natural influx of material from the vicinity of the ditch.

The secondary deposit [21] was also a naturally accumulated deposit from the sides of the feature consisting of a stiff, mid orange brown, silt clay with very few chalk flecks.

This deposit was sealed by 0.27m-thick, soft mid brown clay silt [20] which may represent deliberately dumped material. A fragment of post-medieval roof tile, two brick fragments of medieval/post-medieval date, a fragment of post-medieval clay pipe stem and five fragments of probable pig skull were collected from this fill.

The upper fill of the ditch was compacted mid greyish brown clay silt [19] containing a moderate amount of charcoal and chalk flecking. No finds were recovered from the deposit.

Another feature ([17]) was recorded within this easternmost intervention (Fig. 5). In plan it appeared as a semi-circular feature adjoining the southernmost edge of ditch [07]=[10]=[16]. It measured 12.40m from north-west to south-east and was a maximum of c.2.20m wide. Upon excavation the feature was found to be c.0.50m deep and was filled with deposit [23], compact mid brown clay silt with some flint pebbles and chalk and charcoal flecking. The sides of this feature sloped gently towards the southern edge of ditch [07]=[10]=[16].

Four fragments of post-medieval brick and roof tile, an oyster shell, thirteen pieces of butchered animal bone (from cattle, sheep/goat and probably domestic mammals) and two pottery sherds (one of 15th- to 16th-century and one of 16th- to 18th-century date) were recovered from deposit [23]. The feature was interpreted as a purposely cut platform to allow animal access (and possibly egress) to the ditch for the purposes of watering/bathing. Both ditch [07]=[10]=[16] and possible drinking platform [17] appear to have been recorded in evaluation Trench 1 although understandably they were collectively recorded as a re-cut ditch. If this was indeed the case the infilling of the ditch was dated to the late 17th-18th century and the possible drinking platform to the 15th-16th century.

## 5.2 The Extraction Pit

A large sub-circular feature ([24]) was observed to truncate the natural geological deposits close to the north-west corner of the excavation area (Fig. 5). Feature [24] extended beyond the limit of excavation to the north-east but the portion available for inspection measured 6.90m from north-west to south-east and 2.35m from north-east to south-west. A north-east to south-west aligned section through the feature measuring 1.50m by 0.60m was excavated perpendicular to the edge of the feature.

On excavation the feature was found to be c.0.95m deep, possess near-vertical sides and be cut through yellow brown sandy clay natural. The base was fairly level and coincided with a change in the natural geology to very stiff blue grey clay containing a concentration of large flint nodules up to c.0.30m across.

Two deposits were identified infilling the feature (Fig. 5 Section 11, Plate 4). The lower of the two fills ([26]) was dark grey brown sandy clay and contained large flint nodules (similar to the ones in the underlying natural deposit) along with frequent chalk flecks. A single sherd of 15th- to 16th-century Late medieval and transitional pottery was found within this 0.55m-deep fill. The upper fill [25] consisted of 0.40m-deep, mid yellow brown sandy clay with occasional flints. Finds of 19th- to 20th-century rubbish were contained within deposit [25].



It would seem likely that feature [24] was a quarry/extraction pit for the procurement of the yellow brown clay as the original excavators appeared to have ceased digging after encountering grey clay and flint nodules at the base of the feature. The pit appears to have been quickly backfilled with spoil from the quarrying after excavation as there was no sign of any natural silting in the base of the feature and lower deposit [26] shows no tip lines. A paucity of finds throughout this deposit also suggests that it was excavated for quarrying rather than for disposal of rubbish.



Plate 4. Clay extraction pit [24] facing west

Upper deposit [25] represents an accumulation of material in a hollow left in the top of the feature after settling.

The pottery find from deposit [26] suggests that the feature may have been dug in the 15th-16th century; a period when the construction or sometimes re-facing of dwellings in brick became popular and which may explain the reason for the excavation of the feature.

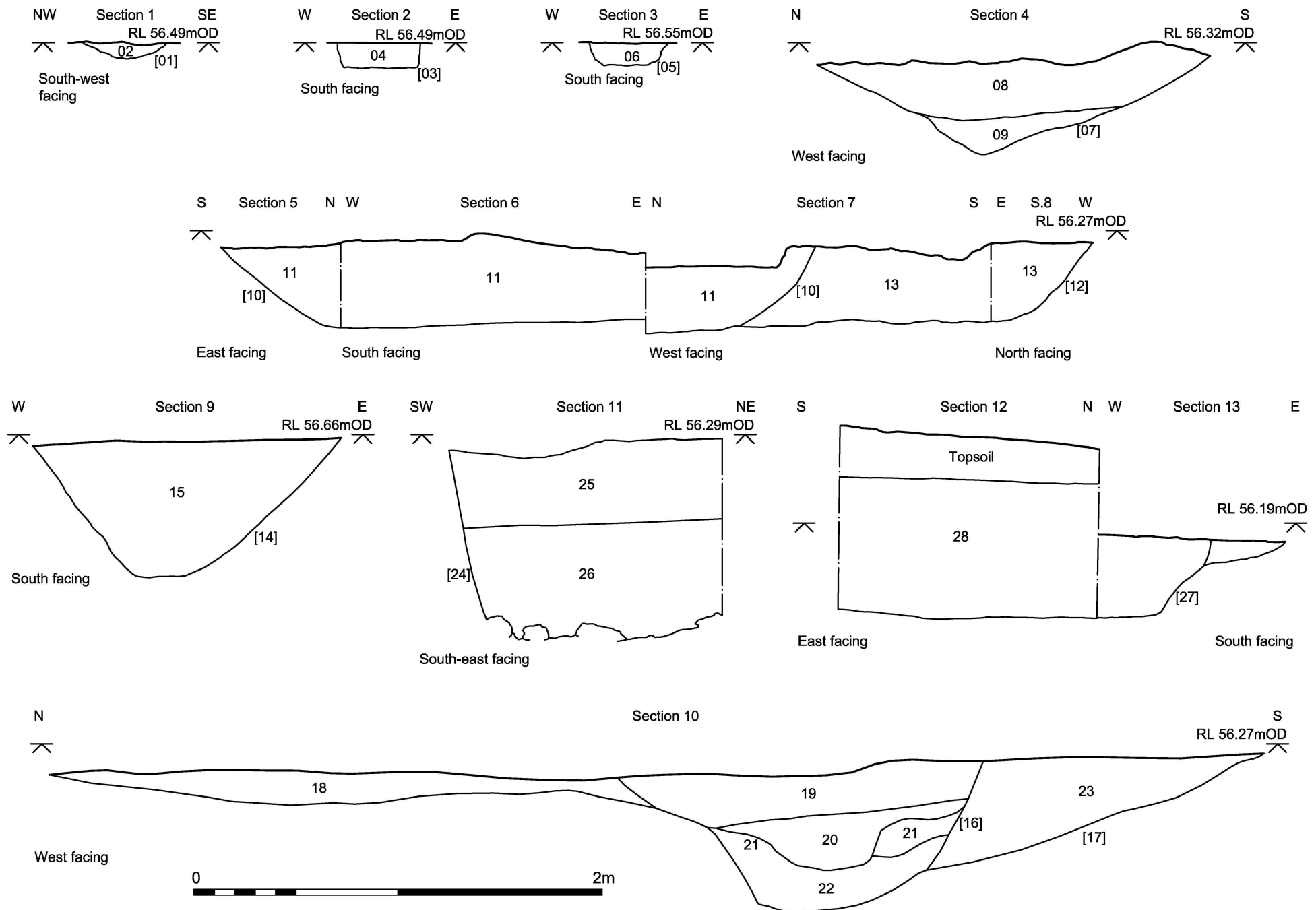


Figure 5. Sections 1 - 13. Scale 1:25



### 5.3 The Pond

The modern Ordnance Survey map shows an elongated pond close to the south-west corner of the development site (Fig. 1) and the easternmost edge of this feature was encountered within the excavation footprint (Fig. 5). A 1.20m-wide section was excavated through the north-eastern end of the feature where a c.1.0m-wide section of the pond was available for inspection (Fig. 5, Sections 12 and 13). The intervention at the edge of feature [27] showed that the edge was quite steep and irregular suggesting a high degree of disturbance by vegetation and/or trees. The base of the feature, located at a depth of c.0.90m below the current ground surface, was reasonably flat at this point. The fill of pond [28] that was examined consisted of firm, mid to dark brown silt clay with very common sub-rounded and rounded flint and chalk pebbles. Two sherds of pottery were recovered from the deposit, one of 12th- to 14th-century and one of the 15th- to 16th-century date. The pond, along with two other circular ponds also present on the Ordnance Survey map, may have originally been a clay extraction pit similar to the one recorded just to the north and described above ([24]).

### 5.4 The Post-holes

A small group of three possible post-hole bases ([01], [03] and [05]) were recorded in the south-western part of the excavation.

The westernmost of the three ([01]) was sub-circular with a saucer-shaped profile and was a maximum of 0.07m deep with a diameter of 0.43m. Its single fill was mid brownish grey clay silt containing a small quantity of rounded flint pebbles. Finds comprised two sherds of 15th- to 16th-century pottery and a piece of butchered sheep or goat bone.



Plate 5. Post-hole [03] facing north

Approximately 1.70m to the south-east was possible post-hole base [03] (Plate 5). This sub-rectangular feature measured 0.48m from north to south and 0.40m from east to west. It was 0.12m deep and had steep, almost vertical sides and a flat base. A sherd of 11th- to 12th-century pottery and an iron nail of unknown date were found within the fill which consisted of mid to dark grey clay silt with sparse charcoal flecks and flint pebbles.

The south-easternmost of the three was possible post-hole [05]. It was sub-oval in plan and, like feature [03] it also measured 0.48m north-south; it was 0.10m deep. The sides of the feature were quite steep and it had a flat base. The single fill ([06]) was mid greyish brown clay silt with sparse charcoal flecks and flint pebbles. A single sherd of 12th- to 14th-century pottery was retrieved from this deposit.

Post-holes [03] and [05] are possibly contemporary (c.12th century), a suggested function being to support an animal feeding trough or similar.

## 6.0 FINDS

The archaeological material collected during the excavation was processed and recorded by count and weight, and an Excel spreadsheet produced outlining broad dating. Each material type has been considered separately and is presented below organised by material.

A list of finds in context number order can be found in Appendix 2a.

The finds reports below were prepared by Rebecca Sillwood unless stated otherwise

### 6.1 Pottery

by Sue Anderson

#### 6.1.1 Introduction

Thirty-three sherds of pottery weighing 440g were collected from ten contexts. Table 1 shows the quantification by fabric; a summary catalogue by context is included as Appendix 3.

Description	Fabric	Code	No	Wt(g)	Eve	MNV
RB Shelly Wares	RBSH	1.90	1	7		1
<b>Total Roman</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>		<b>1</b>
Early medieval ware?	EMW	3.10	1	1		1
Medieval coarseware	MCW	3.20	2	21		2
Waveney Valley coarsewares	WVC W	3.41	15	163	0.25	9
Grimston-type ware	GRIM	4.10	2	3		1
<b>Total medieval</b>			<b>20</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>13</b>
Late medieval and transitional	LMT	5.10	5	67		5
Iron-glazed blackwares	IGBW	6.11	1	34		1
Glazed red earthenware	GRE	6.12	1	7		1
Speckle-glazed Ware	SPEC	6.15	2	30		1
Cologne/Frechen Stoneware	GSW4	7.14	1	6		1
<b>Total late and post-medieval</b>			<b>10</b>	<b>144</b>		<b>9</b>

Description	Fabric	Code	No	Wt(g)	Eve	MNV
Late post-medieval unglazed earthenwares	LPME	8.01	2	101		1
<i>Total modern</i>			2	101		1
<b>Total</b>			<b>33</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>24</b>

Table 1. Pottery quantification by fabric

### 6.1.2 Methodology

Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalent (eve). A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is available in the archive. All fabric codes were assigned from the author's fabric series, which includes East Anglian and Midlands fabrics, as well as imported wares. Form terminology follows MPRG (1998). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes together with number codes for ease of sorting in database format. The results were input directly onto an Access database.

### 6.1.3 Pottery by period

#### 6.1.3.1 Roman

An abraded base fragment of Roman shelly ware was residual in late/post-medieval ditch fill [11].

#### 6.1.3.2 Medieval

One small sherd was identified as possible early medieval ware. It was a hard black body sherd with a fine matrix containing occasional coarse rounded quartz and fine red grog or clay. There is a possibility that the sherd was later Iron Age or Roman, although it was harder than the majority of these wares.

The high medieval wares were dominated by coarsewares, the majority of which were local products. No medieval kilns have been identified in the Waveney Valley to date, but these fabrics are similar to the later medieval LMT wares made in several parishes along the Norfolk–Suffolk border. The 'Waveney Valley coarsewares' comprise grey, buff and occasionally orange fabrics with moderate to abundant fine to medium quartz sand inclusions. Two other medieval coarsewares were present in the group, both unprovenanced. One was a sandy greyware with slightly coarser quartz inclusions than is usual for Waveney Valley products and is more similar to coarsewares from the south-east of the county, and the other was a fine greyware with common very fine calcareous inclusions.

Rims of only two vessels were present, a jug with a plain but slightly flaring rim with a single incised line defining the point where the flaring began, and a bowl with a flat-topped everted rim. The latter was similar to Hollesley types and could be a fine fabric product of that kiln. No decoration was recorded on any body sherds. Several sherds of the body and base of a ?cooking pot were heavily sooted.

Only two fragments of medieval glazed ware were present. These were two flakes of a Grimston Ware vessel, possibly from the neck or rim.

#### 6.1.3.3 Late and post-medieval

Five sherds of LMT comprised four body sherds, two with external green glaze (one with horizontal combing), one with spots of green glaze, one unglazed, and a

fragment of flatware base with internal green glaze. All were in reduced or partly reduced fabrics.

Post-medieval red earthenwares comprised a base fragment of iron-glazed blackware, a body and a handle in speckle-glazed ware, and a body fragment of orange-glazed GRE. A fragment of stoneware in a white sandy fabric was similar to Frechen ware, but could be a late Siegburg product or an English copy.

#### 6.1.3.4 *Modern*

Two fragments of base from a large, thick-walled vessel appeared to be part of a plantpot, although it was slightly unusual in that the edge of the base had a slight footstand and the central hole was steeply chamfered through the thickness of the base.

#### 6.1.4 *Pottery by context*

A summary of the pottery by context is provided in Table 2, below.

Feature	Context	Identifier	Fabric	Spotdate
01	02	Post-hole	LMT	15th-16th c.
03	04	Post-hole	EMW?	11th-12th c.?
05	06	Post-hole	WVCW	L. 12th-14th c.
10	11	Ditch	RBSH, WVCW, GRE	16th-18th c.
14	15	Ditch	MCW, WVCW, GRIM	13th-14th c.
17	23	Ditch/platform	LMT, IGBW	16th-18th c.
-	18	Layer	GSW4, SPEC	17th-18th c.
24	25	Pit	LPME	18th-20th c.
24	26	Pit	LMT	15th-16th c.
27	28	Pond	WVCW, LMT	15th-16th c.

Table 2. Pottery types present by feature/context

The largest group of pottery was from ditch fill [15], comprising 16 sherds. All other contexts contained three or less sherds.

#### 6.1.5 *Discussion*

Although smaller, this assemblage has a similar composition to the group of pottery collected from Oak Farm (GSG 039) previously (Anderson 2012). The majority of sherds are of high medieval date and the range of wares is typical of north Suffolk. Most of the vessels represented by these sherds were probably produced in local kilns located along the Waveney Valley. The only identifiable forms were a bowl and a jug, but body sherds of a probable cooking pot with sooting were also present. Only one glazed ware vessel was identified, and was a Grimston Ware jug fragment from NW Norfolk. Late medieval and transitional wares, also probably from the Waveney Valley kilns, were found in several contexts and suggest late medieval dates for three of the contexts. Post-medieval and modern sherds were not frequent, but provided dates for a further four features. Despite the larger quantity of medieval wares, much of this material was redeposited and only three features could be dated, tentatively or more positively, to the medieval period.



## 6.2 Ceramic Building Material

by Sue Anderson

Seventeen fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 1,522g were collected from five contexts (Appendix 4). The assemblage was quantified (count and weight) by fabric and form. Fabrics were identified on the basis of macroscopic appearance and main inclusions. Table 3 shows the quantification by fabric and form.

Description	fabric	RTP	PAN?	LB	LB?	QFT
fine sandy micaceous	fsm	2	2			
fs, poorly mixed white/red clays	fsx			1		
medium sandy with flint	msf	6		3	2	
white-firing fs with grog	wfg					1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

Table 3. CBM by fabric and form

Eight fragments of post-medieval plain roof tile (RTP) were recovered from ditch fills [11], [20] and [23], layer [18] and pit fill [25]. Two different fabric groups were present, the 'fsm' fragments being slightly softer and more orange than the 'msf' group which were fully oxidised to a dark red. Two fragments of machine-made tile were probably pieces of pantile, although one was a flat edge and the other was a flake with a concave surface; the latter could be the inner surface of a pipe.

The six fragments of late brick (LB) were generally in similar fabrics to the majority of the roof tile. Only one brick was complete in one dimension, a fragment from ditch fill [20] which measured 47mm thick. This suggests an early date for the type, perhaps in the 16th century. One other brick was at least 51mm thick and probably later. However, at least one brick showed signs of wear and some may have been used as floor bricks. A heavily abraded brick from [20] in a poorly mixed fabric had very little surviving surface, but may have been a fragment of a moulded or rubbed brick with a roll moulding. If so, it is likely to be of Tudor date.

A fragment of a white-firing quarry floor tile (QFT) at least 15mm thick was found in layer [18]. Tiles of this type were most commonly used in the 18th-19th centuries.

## 6.3 Fired Clay

A single piece of fired clay, weighing 43g, was recovered from ditch fill [15]. The piece is sandy and poorly mixed, with one smoothed surface, which is orange in colour, with a pink interior. Large fragments of chalk are mixed into the fabric. The piece is possibly a piece of daub, although there are no signs of withy impressions. The piece was found alongside pottery of 12th- to 14th-century date, and a horseshoe of a similar date, and could feasibly be of a similar age, associated with a (possibly small-scale) structure.

## 6.4 Clay Pipe

A single fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem was recovered from ditch fill [02]; it is not more closely datable than post-medieval.

## 6.5 Glass

Two fragments of glass were recovered from the site.

A small fragment came from ditch fill [11] and a larger fragment of base came from pit fill [25]. Both pieces are pale green iridescent glass, and both are likely to have derived from bottles or vessels of post-medieval date.

## 6.6 Stone

A small fragment of roof slate was recovered from pit fill [25], and has since been discarded.

## 6.7 Flint

A small possible prehistoric flake was recovered from ditch fill [11]. The piece is reasonably sharp and may in fact be a natural frost fractured occurrence, rather than worked by human agency.

## 6.8 Metal Finds

### 6.8.1 Iron

Six objects of iron were recovered from the site.

Two of the pieces were nails, one of which was obviously modern (from pit fill [24]) has since been discarded. The second nail came from post-hole fill [04], and although it remains undated, due to the ubiquitous nature of the object, it is clearly older than the previous example.

Ditch fill [11] produced three sheet fragments of iron, one of which may have the remnants of nails through it. The function of these pieces of iron is unknown.

The only datable object of iron was a horseshoe, which was recovered from ditch fill [15] and was complete apart from the end of one of the branches. The shoe is rather small, measuring 102mm in overall length and has a rounded profile, both internally and externally. One nail hole is visible, and two holes still have nails *in situ*. The visible nail hole is oval and tapers inwards. The nails have rectangular shanks; however, the heads are too corroded to define to type. The shoe is likely to be a Type 4 in Clark's typology of horseshoes (2004), and of 14th-century date.

### 6.8.2 Lead

A single object of lead was recovered from ditch fill [11]. The piece is a roughly circular disc, and may be a weight; however, this is not certain. The piece weighs 34g (1¼ oz.).

### 6.8.3 Metalwork Conclusions

The metalwork from his excavation in Gislingham is mainly undatable. The one find which is diagnostic, the 14th-century horseshoe fits well with the chronology of other finds from the same context.

## 6.9 The Animal Bone

by Julie Curl



### 6.9.1 Methodology

The bone from this assemblage consisted of hand-collected examples. All of the bone was identified to species wherever possible using a variety of comparative reference material. Where a complete identification to species was not possible, bone was assigned to a group, such as ‘small mammal’ or ‘bird’ whenever possible. The bones were recorded using a modified version of guidelines described in Davis (1992). No measurements (following Von Den Dreisch, 1976) could be taken due to the heavy fragmentation of the assemblage. Tooth records were made following Hillson (1992a and b).

Any butchering was recorded, noting the type of butchering, such as cut, chopped or sawn and location of butchering. A note was also made of any burnt bone. Pathologies were also recorded with the type of injury or disease, the element affected and the location on the bone. Other modifications were also recorded, such as any possible working, working waste or animal gnawing.

Weights and total number of pieces counts were also taken for each context, along with the number of pieces for each individual species present (NISP) and these appear in the appendix. All information was recorded directly into an Excel database for analysis. A catalogue is provided in the appendix giving a summary of all of the faunal remains by context with all other quantifications along with measurements and a tooth record. The full faunal data record is available in the digital archive and has additional counts for species groups and elements present.

### 6.9.2 The faunal assemblage

#### 6.9.2.1 Quantification, provenance and preservation

A total of 583g of faunal remains, consisting of twenty-seven pieces, was recovered from excavations at this site. Bone was produced from eight contexts, with the bulk of the assemblage (by weight and count) yielded from ditch and ditch/platform fills. Quantification of the faunal remains by feature type, context and count can be seen in Table 4 and by weight in Table 5.

Context	Type					Context Total
	Clay silt deposit	Ditch	Ditch/Platform	Pit	Post-Hole	
2					1	1
8		2				2
15		2				2
18	2					2
20		5				5
22		1				1
23			13			13
25				1		1
<b>Feature Type Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>27</b>

Table 4. Quantification of the faunal assemblage by number of fragments, feature type and context

The assemblage is in good condition, although highly fragmented from butchering and wear. Some variation on colour and condition was noted in the clay silt deposit [18]; this may suggest residual finds or the location and variation within the fill. Canid gnawing was seen in fills [22] and [23], suggesting scavenger activity or remains of meat bones given to domestic dogs.

Context	Type					Context Total
	Clay silt deposit	Ditch	Ditch/Platform	Pit	Post-Hole	
2					5	5
8		16				16
15		19				19
18	73					73
20		122				122
22		40				40
23			291			291
25				17		17
<b>Feature Type Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>583</b>

Table 5. Quantification of the faunal assemblage by weight, feature type and context

#### 6.9.2.2 Species range, modifications and discussion

Four species were identified from this assemblage, all of which are likely to be of domestic origin, although any remains of a medieval date may include wild boar rather than domestic pig, although no obvious wild remains were positively identified. The most commonly seen remains were those of pig/boar, which were seen in four fills, sheep/goat was recorded from three contexts. Cattle and equid were each seen in one context. Quantification of the faunal assemblage by feature type, species and (NISP) is presented in Table 6.

Species	Feature Type and NISP					Species Total
	Clay silt deposit	Ditch	Ditch/Platform	Pit	Post-Hole	
Cattle			6			6
Equid	1					1
Mammal		2	6	1		9
Pig/boar	1	6				7
Sheep/goat		2	1		1	4
<b>Feature Type Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>27</b>

Table 6. Quantification (NISP) of species by feature type

Porcine remains were the most commonly recorded and seen in four fills, the remains are all of juveniles and had been butchered. It is likely that these were remains of domestic pig, although boar cannot be ruled out from earlier remains.

The sheep/goat elements were from adults and would suggest animals perhaps kept for breeding, dung and wool prior to being culled for meat and other by-products. Cattle were only recorded in one fill, with several bones in the ditch/platform fill [23]; most (with exception of the patella) had been butchered and included heavy cuts on the scapula from removal of the meat.

A proximal phalange, in the size range for a large pony or small horse, was recovered from the clay silt deposit [18]. Slight arthritis was noted on the equid foot bone, which is a common pathology seen in animals that have been used for traction and load-bearing.

### **6.9.3 Faunal Discussion and conclusions**

This is a mixed assemblage that largely consists of the primary and secondary butchering and food waste from the main food mammals. The equid foot bone was not butchered and the pathology present suggested it was from a traction animal; the condition was notably different to the other bone in the same fill and might suggest that this was disturbed remains with residual bone.

The assemblage is broadly similar to other assemblages of these date ranges, with a dominance of the main food and domestic mammals. The date range of associated finds, lack of datable remains in some features, along with the probable disturbance and re-depositing of the material makes full and final interpretations of the faunal remains difficult.

Cattle are usually the most common species in mixed assemblages; however, from this site porcine elements were more frequently recorded. It was noted that pigs were particularly numerous in the early Saxon deposits at nearby West Stow (Crabtree 1989) and it was suggested that pig keeping may have become locally based during the fifth and sixth centuries, with the possibility of sty husbandry. Similar high numbers of pig remains were also seen at Flixton in Suffolk (Curl 2012) and perhaps pig keeping continued in medieval Gislingham too - or this village was supplied from local sources - although this assemblage is really too small for any firm conclusions to be made.

Although there is a good range of quality meat bones present, suggesting a good diet, there is a notable lack of smaller bones, such as those from wild mammals and birds, this may be due to lack of these species on this site or due to a recovery bias.

## **6.10 Shell**

Three fragments of marine mollusc were recovered from three contexts; ditch fill [08], layer [18] and ditch/platform fill [23].

Oyster and cockle were present. The shells were discarded after identification.

## **7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE**

### **7.1 Plant Macrofossils (and other remains)**

#### **7.1.1 Introduction and method statement**

Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from a ditch or possible animal drinking feature (feature [17]) and from the fill of pit [24], and two (Samples <1> and <2>) were submitted for assessment.

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover 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 Appendix 6. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern roots were present within both assemblages.

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

#### **7.1.2 Results**

Although charcoal/charred wood fragments are recorded within both assemblages, other plant remains are exceedingly scarce, comprising possible fragmentary cereal grains, a cotyledon of an indeterminate large pulse (Fabaceae) and a single small legume. The assemblage from Sample <1> includes a high density of coal fragments and pieces of black porous and tarry residue. Although specific sieving for mollusc remains was not undertaken, shells of common terrestrial and marsh/freshwater species are present within both assemblages. However, at the time of writing, it is unclear whether these are contemporary with the features from which the samples were taken, or later contaminants.

#### **7.1.3 Plant Macrofossil Conclusions**

The material within Sample <1> would appear to be derived from a low density deposit of hearth waste, some of which may have been imported to the site and used to create a hard stand for the cattle drinker. The few plant macrofossils which are present within this assemblage possibly include both fuel residues and the remains of food plants, which were accidentally charred during culinary preparation.

The assemblage from Sample <2> is very small and difficult to interpret, but it is perhaps most likely the few remains which are recorded are derived from scattered refuse, which was accidentally incorporated within the pit fill.

As neither assemblage contains a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), further analysis would be fruitless.

## 8.0 CONCLUSIONS

The evidence collected during this work implies a relatively low level of activity on the site, focussed on the period between c. 12th-18th centuries.

The fact that the two ditches recorded at the site form a junction suggests that they may well have been contemporary when originally excavated sometime in, or prior to, the 13th-14th centuries, and that the larger of the two (the east-west one) was simply maintained for a longer period. If this is the case the ditches may have originally formed two enclosures fronting onto Mill Street in the medieval period.

North-south aligned ditch ([12]=[14]) appears to have been backfilled and gone out of use in the 13th-14th century. The domestic nature of the broken pottery recovered from the backfill, and the fact that it was relatively unabraded, suggests the presence of human habitation in the vicinity of the site at that time. The medieval building remains found by Basil Brown in the fields on the opposite side of Mill Street at GSG 016 and GSG 017 are possible candidates for this occupation.

It is possible that the ditch may have gone out of use because the central boundary was no longer required owing to a change in land use, such as the keeping of larger animals, or perhaps both plots were amalgamated when acquired by a common owner.

No structural remains were encountered during the work making it very unlikely that a medieval burgage or toft was ever present on the site. It is perhaps more likely that the land was used by nearby residents as paddocks or enclosures for the purposes of animal husbandry.

The combined results of the evaluation phase and the present work suggest that the slightly larger east-west aligned ditch ([07]=[10]=[16]) was probably maintained until the 15th-16th centuries and then filled up during the 17th-18th centuries when it ceased to become a feature of the landscape. The possible drinking platform is also likely to date from the 16th century and was also probably infilled with domestic waste by the 18th century.

The available evidence suggests that clay extraction pit [24] and pond [27] (which may also originally have been an extraction pit) were excavated sometime in the 15th-16th centuries. This date appears to coincide with the abandonment of north-south-east aligned ditch ([07]=[10]=[16]) and therefore may have heralded a change in landuse from, perhaps, the keeping of stock to a more peripheral one of quarrying and waste disposal.

It may be significant that the dwelling situated on the adjoining plot to the east, Oak House, was built in the 17th century and that much of the domestic waste filling the larger, later ditch is at least of that date.

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## Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Cut Type	Fill Of	Description	Period
01	Cut	Post-hole		Post-hole	Medieval
02	Deposit		01	Mid brownish grey clay silt	Medieval
03	Cut	Post-hole		Post-hole	Medieval
04	Deposit		03	Mid -dark grey clay silt	Medieval
05	Cut	Post-hole		Post-hole	Medieval
06	Deposit		05	Mid grey brown clay silt	Medieval
07	Cut	Ditch		East to west ditch (= [10], [16])	Medieval
08	Deposit		07	Yellow brown sandy clay	Medieval
09	Deposit		07	Mid grey sandy clay	Medieval
10	Cut	Ditch		East to west ditch (= [07], [16])	Medieval
11	Deposit		10	Yellow brown sandy clay	Medieval
12	Cut	Ditch		North to south ditch (= [14])	Medieval
13	Deposit		12	Mid grey brown sandy clay	Medieval
14	Cut	Ditch		North to south ditch (= [12])	Medieval
15	Deposit		14	Mid grey brown silt clay	Medieval
16	Cut	Ditch		East to west ditch (= [07], [10])	Medieval
17	Cut	Ditch/Platform		East to west ditch/platform	Post-medieval
18	Deposit	Layer		Mid brown clay silt	Medieval
19	Deposit		16	Mid grey brown clay silt	Medieval
20	Deposit		16	Mid grey brown clay silt	Medieval
21	Deposit		16	Mid orange brown clay silt	Medieval
22	Deposit		16	Grey clay silt	Medieval
23	Deposit		17	Brown clay silt	Post-medieval
24	Cut	Pit		Pit	Post-medieval
25	Deposit		24	Yellow brown sandy clay	Post-medieval
26	Deposit		24	Grey brown sandy clay	Post-medieval
27	Cut	Pond		Pond	Post-medieval
28	Deposit		27	Dark brown silt clay	Post-medieval
29	u/s finds			Finds	-

## Appendix 1b: OASIS Feature Summary

Period	Category	Total
Medieval	Post-hole	3
	Ditch	5
	Ditch/platform	1
Post-medieval	Pit	1
	Pond	1

## Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes
02	Animal Bone	1	5g	Unknown	
02	Pottery	2	31g	Med./Post-Med.	15th-16th century
04	Iron	1	8g	Unknown	Nail
04	Pottery	1	1g	Medieval	11th-12th century
06	Pottery	1	2g	Medieval	12th-14th century
08	Animal Bone	2	16g	Unknown	
08	Shell	1	1g	Unknown	Cockle; DISCARDED
11	Ceramic Building Material	3	67g	Post-medieval	Roof tile
11	Ceramic Building Material	1	13g	Post-medieval	Brick fragment
11	Flint – Struck	1	3g	Prehistoric	
11	Glass	1	1g	Post-medieval	Vessel fragment
11	Iron	3	46g	Unknown	Sheet fragments
11	Lead	1	34g	Unknown	?Weight
11	Pottery	1	7g	Roman	
11	Pottery	1	9g	Medieval	12th-14th century
11	Pottery	1	7g	Post-medieval	16th-18th century
15	Animal Bone	2	19g	Unknown	
15	Fired Clay	1	43g	Unknown	?Daub
15	Iron	1	102g	Medieval	Horseshoe; L102; 13th-14th century
15	Pottery	16	169g	Medieval	12th-14th century
18	Animal Bone	2	73g	Unknown	
18	Ceramic Building Material	1	17g	Post-medieval	Roof tile
18	Ceramic Building Material	1	157g	Post-medieval	Brick fragment
18	Ceramic Building Material	2	30g	Post-medieval	Pan tile
18	Ceramic Building Material	1	84g	Post-medieval	Quarry floor tile
18	Pottery	3	36g	Post-medieval	16th-18th century
18	Shell	1	3g	Unknown	Oyster; DISCARDED
20	Animal Bone	5	122g	Unknown	
20	Ceramic Building Material	1	20g	Post-medieval	Roof tile
20	Ceramic Building Material	2	510g	Med./Post-Med.	Brick fragment
20	Clay Pipe	1	4g	Post-medieval	Stem
22	Animal Bone	1	40g	Unknown	
23	Animal Bone	13	291g	Unknown	



Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes
23	Ceramic Building Material	2	62g	Post-medieval	Roof tile
23	Ceramic Building Material	2	541g	Post-medieval	Brick fragment
23	Pottery	1	14g	Med./Post-Med.	15th-16th century
23	Pottery	1	34g	Post-medieval	16th-18th century
23	Shell	1	18g	Unknown	Oyster; DISCARDED
25	Animal Bone	1	17g	Unknown	
25	Ceramic Building Material	1	21g	Post-medieval	Roof tile
25	Glass	1	38g	Post-medieval	Vessel fragment
25	Iron	1	7g	Modern	Nail; DISCARDED
25	Pottery	2	101g	Modern	18th-20th century
25	Stone	1	10g	Unknown	Slate; DISCARDED
26	Pottery	1	12g	Med./Post-Med.	15th-16th century
28	Pottery	1	10g	Med./Post-Med.	15th-16th century
28	Pottery	1	7g	Medieval	12th-14th century

## Appendix 2b: OASIS Finds Summary

Period	Material	Total
Prehistoric	Flint – Struck	1
Roman	Pottery	1
Medieval	Iron	1
	Pottery	20
Med./Post-medieval	Ceramic Building Material	2
	Pottery	5
Post-medieval	Ceramic Building Material	15
	Clay Pipe	1
	Glass	2
	Pottery	5
Modern	Iron	1
	Pottery	2
Uncertain	Animal Bone	27
	Fired Clay	1
	Iron	4
	Lead	1
	Shell	3
	Stone	1

### Appendix 3: Pottery Catalogue

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/g	Fabric date range
02	LMT			1	19	15th-16th c.
02	LMT			1	12	15th-16th c.
04	EMW			1	1	11th-12th c.
06	WVCW			1	2	12th-14th c.
11	RBSH			1	7	RB
11	WVCW			1	9	12th-14th c.
11	GRE			1	7	16th-18th c.
15	WVCW			6	79	12th-14th c.
15	WVCW			3	17	12th-14th c.
15	WVCW	jug	UPPL	2	13	13th-14th c.
15	WVCW	bowl	FTEV	1	36	13th-14th c.
15	MCW			1	6	12th-14th c.
15	MCW			1	15	12th-14th c.
15	GRIM			2	3	L. 12th-14th c.
18	GSW4			1	6	16th-17th c.
18	SPEC			2	30	L. 17th-18th c.
23	LMT			1	14	15th-16th c.
23	IGBW			1	34	16th-18th c.
25	LPME	plantpot		2	101	18th-20th c.
26	LMT			1	12	15th-16th c.
28	WVCW			1	7	12th-14th c.
28	LMT			1	10	15th-16th c.

#### Appendix 4: CBM Catalogue

Context	Fabric	Form	No	Wt/g	Abr	Height	Mortar	Comments	Date
11	fsm	RTP	1	39					pmed
11	msf	RTP	2	28			thin		pmed
11	msf	LB?	1	13	+			no surfaces	pmed?
11	fsm	PAN?	1	3				flake, concave inner surface, could be pipe?	pmed
18	msf	RTP	1	17					pmed
18	msf	LB?	1	157			thin on ?worn surface	not full thickness, poss worn, used as floor brick?	pmed
18	fsm	PAN?	1	27					pmed
18	wfg	QFT	1	84		15+		worn	pmed
20	msf	RTP	1	20	+				pmed
20	msf	LB	1	289	+	47		reduced surface	lmed?
20	fsx	LB	1	221	++			not much surface surviving, but possibly moulded?	lmed?
23	msf	RTP	2	62					pmed
23	msf	LB	1	389	+				pmed
23	msf	LB	1	152		>51		corner	pmed
25	fsm	RTP	1	21					pmed

## Appendix 5: Animal Bone Catalogue

Context	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Age	Element range	Measure	Count	Butchering	Gnaw	R/C/F	Path	foot	LL	UL	SC/P	Misc	Comments	
02	1	5	Sheep/goat	1		ul			ch						1			femur shaft fragment	
08	2	16	Pig/boar	2		ul			ch						2			shaft fragments	
15	2	19	Sheep/goat	2	a	scap and ll		1	c, ch					1		1		scapula blade and metapodial fragment	
18	2	73	Equid	1	a	f						1	1					proximal phalange, small horse/large pony sized	
			Pig/boar	1	j	ul			ch						1			radius, darker stained than equid in same fill	
20	5	122	Pig/boar	3	j	mandible pieces	1	1	c									mandible, P4 erupting, M3 visible in broken jaw but not erupting.	
			Mammal	2		skull fragments													probably fragments of porcine skull
22	1	40	Pig/boar	1		ul			ch	1	c				1			humerus, slight gnawing	
23	13	291	Cattle	6	a	scap, ul, pat, pel		2	c, ch	1	c					3	2	1	patella and other frags, heavy cuts/ch on scap, gnawed
			Sheep/goat	1		ul			ch							1			tibia
			Mammal	6		fragments			c, ch	1	c								
25	1	17	Mammal	1		ul			ch						1			cattle or equid humerus fragment	

### Key

NISP = Number of Individual Species elements Present; Age – a = adult, j = juvenile (older than 1 month), neonatal = less than one month;

Butchering = c = cut, ch = chopped, s = sawn; Element range: f = foot bones, ll = lower limb, ul = upper limb, pel = pelvis, scap = scapula, pat = patella,

Mand = mandible; Gnaw = gnawed bone - c = canid, r = rodent, f = feline/mustelid; Path = pathologies recorded

## Appendix 6: Plant Macrofossils (and other remains)

Sample No.	1	2
Context No.	23	26
Feature No.	17	24
Feature type	?Ditch/Platform	Pit
Plant macrofossils		
Cereal indet. (grains)	xcffg	xcffg
Large Fabaceae indet.	xcoty	
Fabaceae indet.	x	
Charcoal <2mm	xxx	x
Charcoal >2mm	xx	x
Charred root/stem	x	
Other remains		
Black porous 'cokey' material	xx	
Black tarry material	x	
Bone	x	x
Small coal frags.	xxx	
Small mammal/amphibian bones	x	
Mollusc shells		
Woodland/shade loving species		
<i>Aegopinella</i> sp.	x	
<i>Discus rotundatus</i>	x	x
<i>Vitrea</i> sp.		x
Open country species		
<i>Vallonia</i> sp.	x	
<i>V. costata</i>	x	x
Catholic species		
<i>Cochlicopa</i> sp.	x	
<i>Nesovitrea hammonis</i>	xcf	
<i>Trichia hispida</i> group	xx	x
Marsh/freshwater species		
<i>Anisus leucostoma</i>	xx	
<i>Lymnaea</i> sp.	x	x
Sample volume (litres)	26	18
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%

**Key** x = 1–10 specimens xx = 11–50 specimens xxx = 51–100 specimens

cf = compare fg = fragment coty = cotyledon ?D/P = possible ditch or platform

**Appendix 7: OASIS Summary**

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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**OASIS ID: norfolka1-137904**

## Project details

Project name	Oak House Farm, Gislingham
Short description of the project	An archaeological excavation was conducted for Orchard Developments (East Anglia) Limited ahead of the construction of new dwellings at Oak House Farm, Mill Street, Gislingham in Suffolk. The work followed trial trench evaluation of the site carried out in April 2012. Two ditches recorded at the site may have originally formed part of two medieval enclosures which fronted onto and respected the alignment of Mill Street. The combined results of the evaluation phase and the excavation suggest that the slightly larger, north-west to south-east aligned ditch was probably maintained until the 15th-16th centuries and then filled up during the 17th-18th centuries when it ceased to become a feature of the landscape. A clay extraction pit and a pond (which may also originally have been an extraction pit) appeared to have been excavated sometime in the 15th-16th centuries. This date appears to coincide with the abandonment of the north-west to south-east aligned ditch and therefore may have heralded a change in landuse from, perhaps, the keeping of stock to a more liminal one of quarrying and waste disposal.
Project dates	Start: 11-07-2012 End: 27-07-2012
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	GSG041 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	POST-HOLES Medieval
Monument type	DITCHES Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	POND Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FLINT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POT Roman
Significant Finds	POT Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Post Medieval

Investigation type "Open-area excavation"  
 Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

### Project location

Country England  
 Site location SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK GISLINGHAM Oak House Farm, Mill Street,  
 Study area 725.00 Square metres  
 Site coordinates TM 072 718 52 1 52 18 16 N 001 02 22 E Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation NPS Archaeology  
 Project brief originator Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services  
 Project design originator NPS Archaeology  
 Project director/manager david whitmore  
 Project supervisor Mick Boyle  
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer  
 Name of sponsor/funding body Orchard Developments (East Anglia) Limited

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Suffolk County Council  
 Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"  
 Digital Archive recipient NPS Archaeology  
 Digital Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"  
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Spreadsheets","Text"  
 Paper Archive recipient Suffolk County Council  
 Paper Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Metal","Worked stone/lithics","other"  
 Paper Media available "Context sheet","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
 Title Archaeological Excavation at Oak House Farm, Mill Street, Gisleingham, Suffolk



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**NPS ARCHAEOLOGY**

**Oak House Farm  
Mill Street  
Gislingham  
Suffolk**

**PROJECT DESIGN**

**FOR**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION**

**Prepared for**

**Orchard Developments (East Anglia) Limited  
Orchard Farm  
Bush Green  
Pulham Market  
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**June 2012**

**Reference No: NAU/BAU3098/DW**