

Report 2014/1036

# nps archaeology

# Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at Bungay Road, Bixley, Norfolk

ENF134716

Prepared for La Ronde Wright Ltd 4 The Close Norwich NR1 4DH

Rob Brown BSc

November 2014









# www.nps.co.uk

PROJECT CHECKLIST			
Draft Completed	Rob Brown	25/08/2014	
Graphics Completed	David Dobson	18/09/2014	
Edit Completed	Andrew Crowson	03/10/2014	
Revised	Rob Brown	30/10/2014	
Reviewed	Jayne Bown	03/11/2014	
Issue 1			

# **NPS Archaeology**

Scandic House 85 Mountergate Norwich NR1 1PY

T 01603 756150

F 01603 756190

E nau.mail@nps.co.uk

http://nau.nps.co.uk

01-04-15-2-1036

© NPS Archaeology

# Contents

	Summary	1
1.0	Introduction	1
2.0	Geology and Topography	3
	2.1 Geology	3
	2.2 Topography	3
3.0	Archaeological and Historical Background	4
4.0	Methodology	5
5.0	Results	8
6.0	The Artefactual Material	.47
	6.1 Pottery	.47
7.0	Conclusions	.48
	Acknowledgements	.49
	Bibliography and Sources	.49
	Appendix 1a: Context Summary	.50
	Appendix 1b: OASIS Feature Summary	.51
	Appendix 2a: Finds by Context	.51
	Appendix 2b: OASIS Finds Summary	.51
	Appendix 3: OASIS Report Summary	.52
	Appendix 4: Archaeological Specification	.56

# Figures

Figure 1	Site location
Figure 2	Location of trenches
Figure 3	Location of trenches and geophysics results
Figure 4	Trench 1, plan and sections
Figure 5	Trench 2, plan and section
Figure 6	Trench 10, plan and section
Figure 7	Trench 11, plan and sections
Figure 8	Trench 12, plan and sections
Figure 9	Trench 13, plan and sections
Figure 10	Trench 14, plan and section

Figure 11 Trench 15, plan and sections
Figure 12 Trench 16, plan and sections
Figure 13 Trench 17, plan and sections
Figure 14 Trench 18, plan and sections

#### Plates

- Plate 1Ditches [47], [49] and [51] in Trench 1Plate 2Ditch [24] in Trench 2Plate 3Ditch [57] in Trench 10Plate 4Ditch [18] in Trench 11
- Plate 5 Ditch [20] in Trench 11
- Plate 6 Ditch terminus [26] in Trench 12
- Plate 7 Ditch [28] in Trench 12
- Plate 8 Ditch [30] in Trench 12
- Plate 9 Ditch terminus [32] in Trench 12
- Plate 10 Ditch [34] in Trench 12
- Plate 11 Ditch [36] in Trench 13
- Plate 12 Pit [38] in Trench 13
- Plate 13 Pit [40] in Trench 13
- Plate 14 Pit [45] in Trench 13
- Plate 15 Ditch [15] in Trench 14
- Plate 16 Ditch [07] in Trench 15
- Plate 17 Pit [09] in Trench 15
- Plate 18 Curving ditch [05] in Trench 16
- Plate 19 Gully [53] in Trench17
- Plate 20 Ditch [55] in Trench 17
- Plate 21 Ditch terminus [11] in Trench 18
- Plate 22 Pit [13] in Trench 18
- Plate 23 Roman pottery from ditch [31], Trench 12

Location:	Land off Bungay Road, Bixley, Norfolk
District:	South Norfolk
Grid Ref.:	TG 2584 0374
Planning Ref.:	2012/0405/0
HER No.:	ENF134716
OASIS Ref.:	177639
Client:	La Ronde Wright Ltd
Dates of Fieldwork:	7 July-10 July 2014

#### Summary

An archaeological trial trench evaluation was conducted for La Ronde Wright Ltd as part of planning proposals for possible housing development of land off Bungay Road, Bixley, Norfolk.

Although the initial intention was to excavate 18 trenches, it was only possible to open 17 due to the location of buried services.

The siting of the trenches was informed by the identification of crop marks showing on aerial photographs taken in 1946, and by interpretations of the results of a geophysical survey carried out in 2011. Fourteen of the trenches were thus positioned over linear features and other areas of potential archaeological interest, whilst the remaining trenches were located to explore areas apparently devoid of archaeological features.

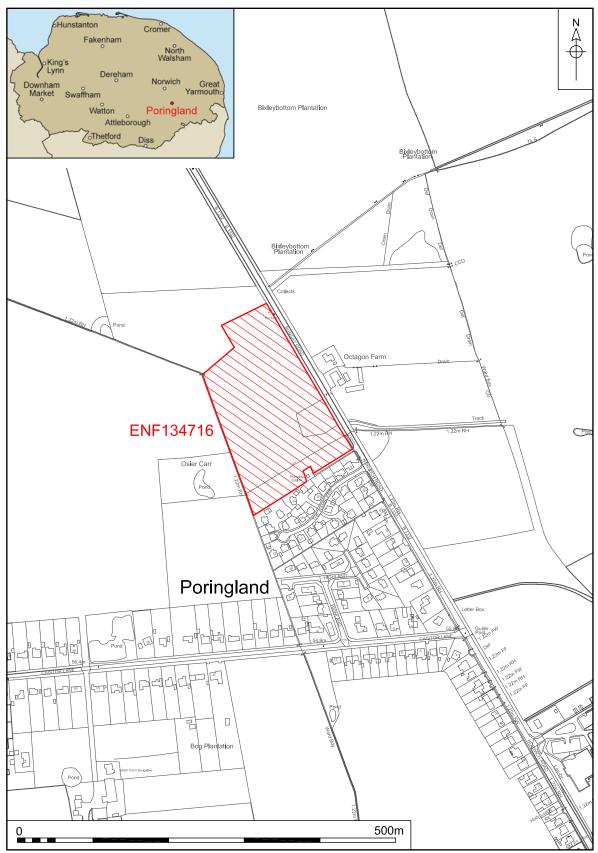
Eleven trenches contained archaeological evidence, ten of which correlated directly to archaeological interpretations of the geophysical survey. One trench (Trench 2) contained a linear feature that had not been recognised previously. Many of the non-linear features excavated proved to be of natural origin.

Only one feature, a ditch in Trench 12, provided dating evidence. The find of Roman-period pottery suggests the possibility of activity related to a Roman road that may have run across the prospective development site.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The site of proposed residential development is located on the west side of Bungay Road, Bixley, Norfolk (Figure 1). An archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was planned to obtain a 3.5% sample of the affected area. Fourteen trenches were targeted at magnetic anomalies identified in a geophysical survey (Stratascan 2011), and a further four trenches were positioned to explore areas ostensibly devoid of archaeological deposits.

The work was undertaken to fulfil planning requirements set by South Norfolk Council (Ref: 2012/0405/0), and a Brief issued by Norfolk Historic Environment Service (NHES) (Ref: CNF43324). The work was conducted in accordance with a Project Design and Method Statement prepared by NPS Archaeology (Ref: 01-04-15-2-1036). The work was commissioned and funded by La Ronde Wright Ltd.



<sup>©</sup> Crown copyright and database rights 2014 Ordnance Survey 100019340

Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:5000

The programme of work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains in the proposed development area, following guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government 2012). 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 Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service following the relevant policies on archiving standards.

# 2.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

# 2.1 Geology

The underlying bedrock consists of Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation, and Culver Chalk Formation, sedimentary bedrocks laid down during the Turonian to Campanian Age (Cretaceous Period) *c*.93.6 to 83.5 million years ago (British Geological Survey 1985, <u>http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html</u>).

The bedrock is overlain by superficial deposits made up of Lowestoft Formation Diamicton. This forms an extensive sheet of chalky till, together with outwashes of sands and gravels, and silts and clays, and is characterised by its chalk and flint content. The superficial deposits were laid down during the middle part (Pleistocene) of the Anglian Age, *c*.450,000 years ago (British Geological Survey 1991, <u>http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html</u>).

The superficial deposits were overlain by homogenous mid-grey brown sandy silt subsoil with some clay content and frequent small- to medium-sized flint inclusions. Measured across the excavated areas, its thickness averaged 0.15m.

Topsoil was dark grey brown sandy loam with frequent small stones and flints, along with occasional medium-sized flint inclusions. On average, it measured 0.30m deep.

# 2.2 Topography

The proposed development site is located just within the parish of Bixley in a field at the north edge of the conjoined villages of Framingham Earl and Poringland (Figure 1). It is bounded on its northeast side by the B1332 Bungay Road. Its southeast side is delimited by the housing development *The Ramblers*. A short section at the southern end of the southwest side is bordered by a block of woodland, *Osier Carr*. The remaining sides are surrounded by open farmland. Just to the east of the site, bordering the northeast flank of Bungay Road, lies Octagon Farm.

The site is relatively level, with a very gentle slope running down from 50.56m OD at the south end of the field to 47.56m OD at the north end. The land is reasonably well drained and a crop of sugar beet was present at the time of excavation.

Access to the site from the B1332 is served by an area of hard standing, surrounded by *c*.3m-high bunds, opposite Octagon Farm.

A number of irrigation pipes and underground reservoirs are present in the field, whilst a high pressure gas main runs c.30m north of the site.

# 3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

A search of the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER) returned a total of 71 records of historic sites and find spots within a 1km radius of the proposed development site. Two of these records relate to extant buildings and are not considered here. A further two relate to archaeological watching briefs that revealed no archaeological evidence. The remaining 67 records were considered and a summary is presented below, organised by broad historical period.

#### Prehistoric

The NHER revealed evidence for prehistoric activity within the environs of the site dating from the Mesolithic to the Iron Age. Eight records relate specifically to this time span, although flint tools have also been recorded as part of other, multiperiod find spots. There is also some evidence from crop marks of possible Neolithic/Bronze Age enclosures.

The most significant records relate to a burnt mound (NHER9839), and a Neolithic mortuary enclosure (NHER53227), which lays *c*.500m west of the proposed development site. There is also a possible Iron Age funerary enclosure (NHER53303) to the southeast and, to the northwest an Iron Age coin (NHER25975) was found that is believed to be one of the earliest of its type.

#### Roman

There are a number of multi-period find spots that provide evidence for a Roman presence locally, along with two specific find spots of Roman coins. However, the main evidence for this period is provided by NHER sites 9904, 18194, 53212 and 53213. These records refer to aerial photographs that show crop marks, soil marks and earthworks evidence for a Roman road running northeast to southwest, and a second possible road running from northwest to southeast; both may pass through the north end of the proposed development site. A further record, NHER28997, details a quantity of Roman pottery from a ditch that may well be associated with the northeast to southwest road.

#### Saxon

There is little evidence for the Saxon period other than occasional pieces of pottery found as part of multi-period find spots in a limited number of places.

#### Medieval to Post-medieval

Twenty-three records relate directly to the medieval and post-medieval periods. These include records of two deserted medieval villages: that of Arminghall (NHER9877), to the northwest of the current site, and Bixley (NHER52477), to the northeast of the site. The medieval precursor to the B1132 runs *c*.100m east and parallel to the modern road. Evidence for this period is also found as a component of a number of multi-period find spots, as well as in extant earthworks and as crop mark evidence recorded from aerial photographs. None of the NHER records of the medieval and post-medieval periods were within the proposed development site.

#### Modern

There are 10 records for the modern period, all relating to the Second World War. Three are classed as radar stations (NHER14227, 32538, 52470), and a further

four relate to structures, trenches and underground bunkers (NHER32835, 32836, 32868, 53301). There are two Type 22 pillboxes (NHER52472, 52473), and whilst there are also bomb craters (53346) nearby, no modern records fall within the area of the proposed development site.

### 4.0 METHODOLOGY

Figures 2 and 3

The objective of the trial trench 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.

The Brief required that 3.5% of the 2.76ha proposed development site be sampled by trial trenching (Figures 2 and 3). Eighteen 30.00m by 1.80m trenches were to be arrayed across the site to target magnetic anomalies interpreted from geophysical data as being potentially of archaeological origin (Stratascan 2011). Machine excavation of the trenches was carried out under constant archaeological supervision by a tracked hydraulic 360° excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket.

In addition to the archaeological procedures, the excavation was observed by an independent contractor to ensure that there was no danger from unexploded ordnance remaining from the site's exposure to aerial bombing during the Second World War.

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

No environmental soil samples were taken.

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 temporary benchmark used during the course of the work was established by GPS and total station theodolite for each trench, and varied between 50.56m OD and 47.56m OD.

Site conditions were damp and overcast with work taking place in frequent rain showers.

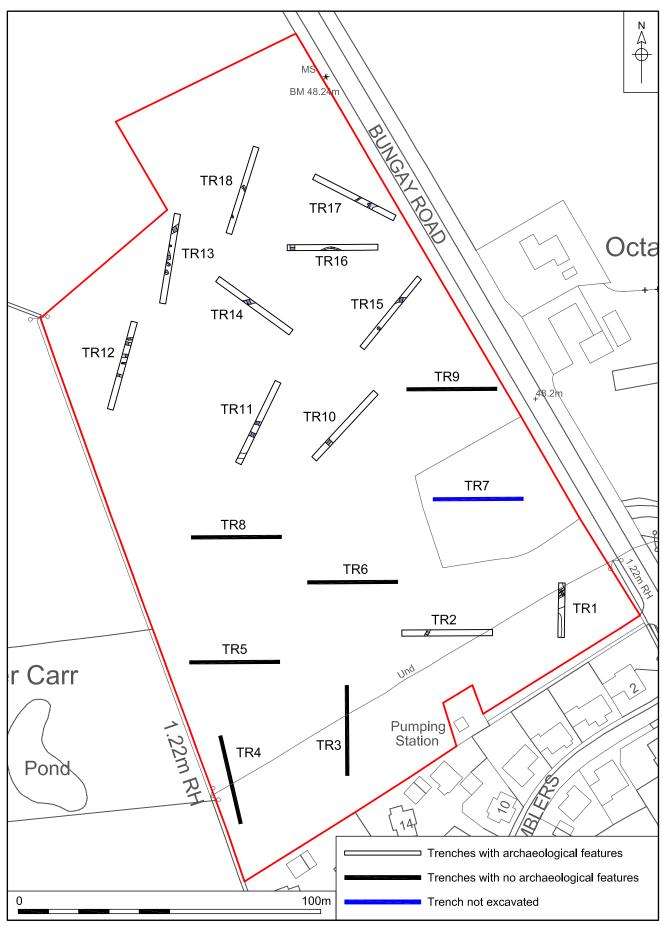
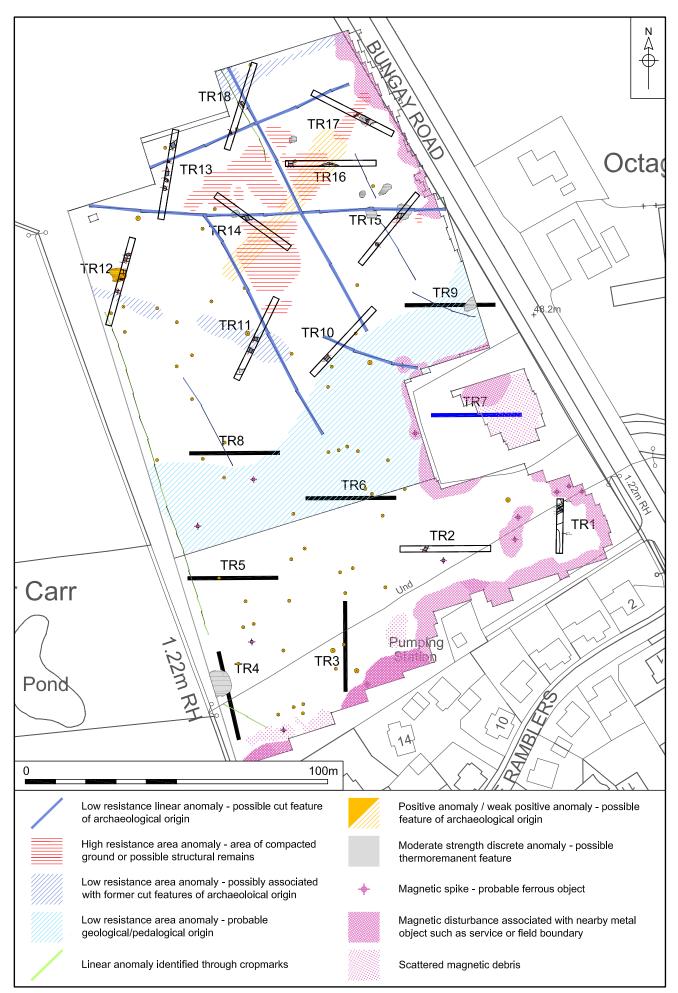




Figure 2. Location of trenches. Scale 1:1250



 $\ensuremath{\textcircled{\sc b}}$  Crown copyright and database rights 2014 Ordnance Survey 100019340

Figure 3. Location of trenches and geophysics results. Scale 1:1250

### 5.0 RESULTS

# Trench 1

Trench	-					
	State of the second	A BERN	Figures 2, Location	3 and	4, Plate 1	
W H	- main and	and all a factor	-			
2	1 4		Orientation		North to south	
-	1 - N	The states	North end		625915 30372	
	1 - Canada		South end		625915 30370	)2
	E State		Dimension	IS	1	
14	Con Haterson		Length		18.00m	
			Width		1.80m	
	and the lot of the	The A State	Depth		0.75m	
24		2	Levels			
			North top		47.98m OD	
And in case of						
			South top		48.51m OD	
Context	Туре	Descripti	South top on and Interpreta	tion	48.51m OD Thickness	Depth BGL
Context 47	Type       Cut		on and Interpreta ligned northeast			<b>Depth BGL</b> 0.75-0.90m
		Ditch a	on and Interpreta ligned northeast t		Thickness	
47	Cut	Ditch a southwes Fill of [47]	on and Interpreta ligned northeast t ligned northeast	to	Thickness 0.15m	0.75-0.90m
47 48	Cut Deposit	Ditch a southwes Fill of [47] Ditch a	on and Interpreta ligned northeast t ligned northeast t	to	Thickness           0.15m           0.15m	0.75-0.90m 0.75-0.90m
47 48 49	Cut Deposit Cut	Ditch a southwes Fill of [47] Ditch a southwes Fill of [49]	on and Interpreta ligned northeast t ligned northeast t ligned northeast	to to	Thickness         0.15m         0.15m         0.15m	0.75-0.90m 0.75-0.90m 0.75-0.90m

#### Discussion

Trench 1 contained three ditches running close together and parallel to each other, aligned from northeast to southwest. They were very similar in profile and width and were filled by identical deposits. No datable material was found in any of the three features.

The trench was situated in a slight hollow and quickly became very wet, filling with groundwater. It seems possible that this situation may at times have precipitated another of the small ponds that are shown on maps around the edge of the proposed development site.

Some evidence of modern disturbance at the south end of the trench was noted, which may be associated with nearby housing and overhead electric cables. The presence of the power lines meant that Trench 1 was cut short from 30m to 18m in order to allow a safe working distance from them. The area of modern disturbance likely correlates to magnetic disturbance and debris identified in the geophysical survey, and this appears to have masked the identification of the three ditches excavated in Trench 1.



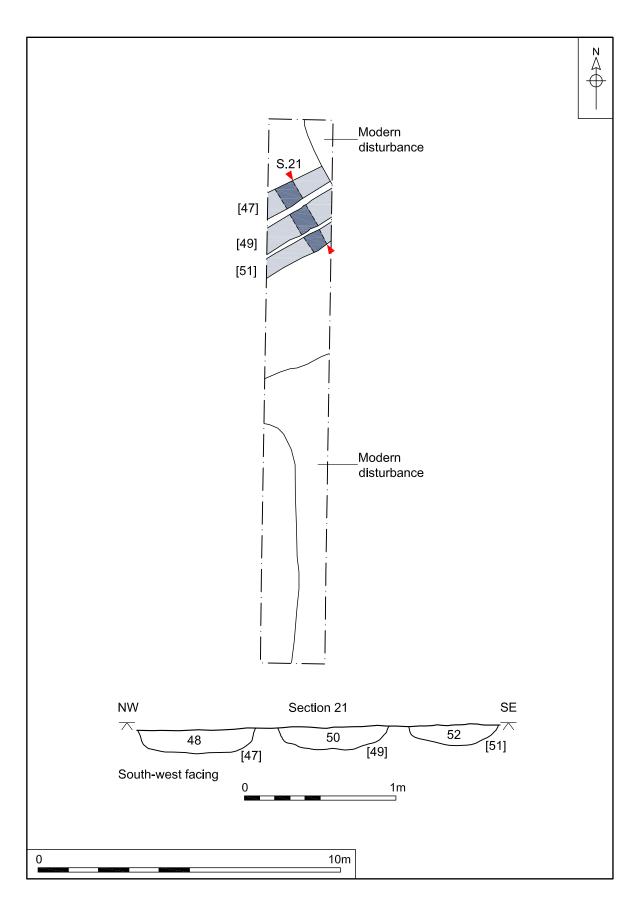


Figure 4. Trench 1, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench	2		Figures 2.2 -	un el	5 Diata 2	
			Figures 2, 3 a	ina	5, Plate 2	
			Location			
AL PE	CALL STREET	at in the	Orientation		East to west	
	and A	Commenter .	East end		625892 303696	
			West end		625869 303696	
		Mar an	Dimensions			
	3/		Length		30.00m	
	Design of the		Width		1.80m	
A STATUT			Depth		0.38m	
	Street St		Levels			
	and a		East top		48.79m OD	
			West top		49.03m OD	
Context	Туре	Description and	d Interpretation	n	Thickness	Depth BGL
24	Cut	Ditch aligned southwest and single fill		to a	0.20m	0.38-0.58m
25	Deposit	Fill of [24]			0.20m	0.38-0.58m
Discussio	on					
	was placed ir gically blank, in or					

archaeologically blank, in order to test the veracity of the survey. A solitary ditch was revealed, although no finds were discovered and the feature remains undated and cannot, at this stage, be related confidently to any other features at the site.



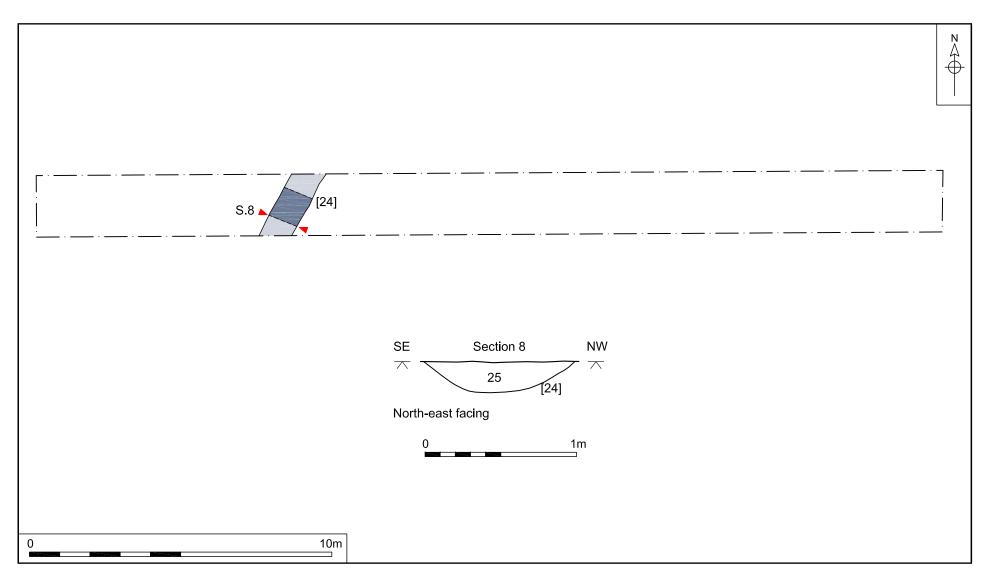


Figure 5. Trench 2, plan and section. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 3		
	Figures 2 and	3
	Location	
	Orientation	North to south
	North end	625844 303679
	South end	625844 303656
	Dimensions	
	Length	30.00m
Market Market	Width	1.80m
	Depth	0.36m
	Levels	
A State of the second second	North top	49.62m OD
	South top	49.88m OD
Discussion		
No archaeological features, deposits or arter	facts were preser	nt in Trench 3.

Trench 4		
	Figures 2 and 3	
Tax for the second s	Location	
and the second	Orientation	Northwest to southeast
	Northwest end	625802 303662
	Southeast end	625807 303640
Real Property of the second se	Dimensions	
A State State New	Length	30.00m
	Width	1.80m
	Depth	0.48m
	Levels	
	Northwest top	50.24m OD
	Southeast top	50.56m OD
Discussion		

No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were present in Trench 4.

Trench 5			
	Figures 2 and	3	
and the state of the	Location		
	Orientation	East to west	
A STATE OF STATE	East end	625815 303687	
	West end	625792 303687	
	Dimensions		
	Length	30.00m	
	Width	1.80m	
	Depth	0.37m	
Server a server a server	Levels		
and the second second	East top	49.79m OD	
	West top	49.93m OD	
Discussion			
No archaeological features, deposits or artef	acts were presen	t in Trench 5.	



1		
Figures 2 and 3		
Location		
Orientation	East to west	
East end	625861 303713	
West end	625838 303713	
Dimensions		
Length	30.00m	
Width	1.80m	
Depth	0.45m	
Levels		
East top	49.04m OD	
West top 49.24m OD		
1I		
cts were present in Trench 6.		

#### Discussion

No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were present in Trench 6.

#### Figures 2 and 3

#### Discussion

Trench 7 was not excavated due to the presence of underground services in the area.

### Trench 8



Figures 2 and 3			
Location			
Orientation	East to west		
East end	625815 303728		
West end	625792 303728		
Dimensions			
Length	30.00m		
Width	1.80m		
Depth	0.42m		
Levels			
East top	49.30m OD		
West top 49.54m OD			
cts were present in Trench 8			

#### No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were present in Trench 8.



Figures 2 and 3	Figures 2 and 3		
Location			
Orientation	East to west		
East end	625886 303777		
West end	625864 303777		
Dimensions			
Length	30.00m		
Width	1.80m		
Depth	0.36m		
Levels			
East top	48.17m OD		
West top	48.32m OD		

Discussion

No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were present in Trench 9.

Trench	10				
Figures				3 and 6, Plate 3	
	And the state	and the	Location		
			Orientation	Northeast to southwest	
			Northeast end	625853 303776	
			Southwest end	625838 303759	
and the	1	- A BEE	Dimensions	•	
			Length	30.00m	
			Width	1.80m	
			Depth	0.22m	
		Levels			
		the shift.	Northeast top	48.47m OD	
			Southwest top	48.73m OD	
Context	Туре	Description an	d Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
57	Cut	Ditch aligned from northwest to southeast with a single fill		0.11m	0.22-0.33m
58	Deposit	Fill of [57]		0.11m	0.22-0.33m
Diaguagia		1		1	

#### Discussion

Trench 10 was situated to intersect two potential features identified by interpretations of the geophysical data. However, only one, shallow and undated ditch was found in the excavation. The possibility remains, though, that the alignment of this ditch may relate to the Roman road reported to run from northwest to southeast across the proposed development site.



Plate 3. Ditch [57] in Trench 10

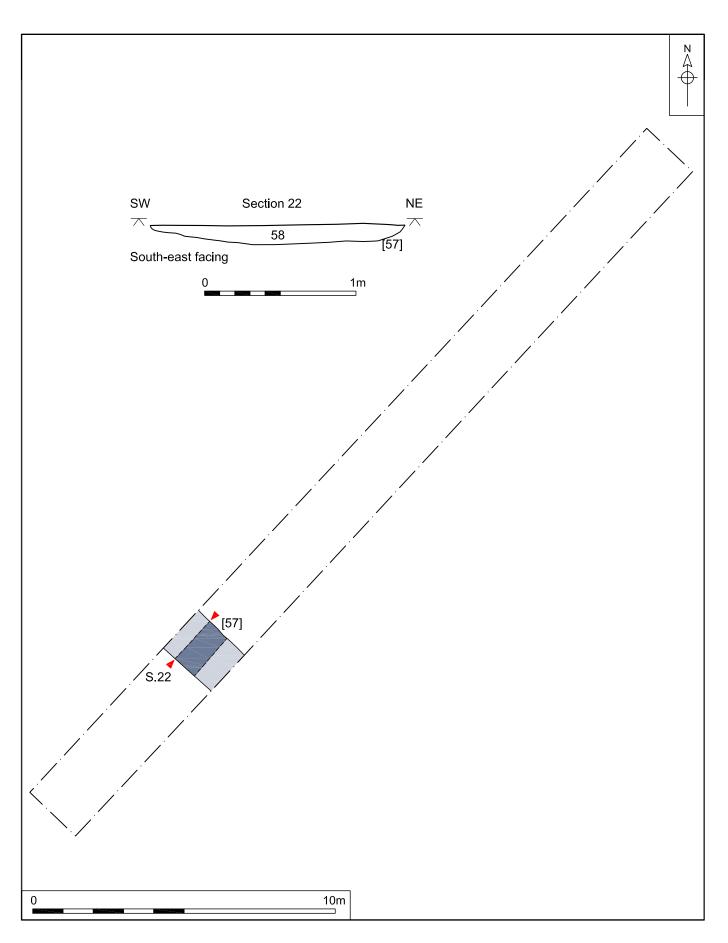


Figure 6. Trench 10, plan and section. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench	11					
Figures 2, 3 and 7, Plates 4 and 5					5	
			Location			
			Orientation	Northeast to southwest		
		Northeast end	625821 303779			
		Southwest end	625811 303759			
			Dimensions	S		
Len			Length	30.00m		
			Width	1.80m		
			Depth	0.40m		
			Levels	Levels		
N			Northeast top	48.66m OD		
			Southwest top	48.82m OD		
Context	Туре	Description an	d Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL	
18	Cut	Ditch		0.27m	0.40-0.67m	
4.0	<b>D</b>	Fill of ditch [18]		0.07	0.40.0.07	

18	Cut	Ditch	0.27m	0.40-0.67m
19	Deposit	Fill of ditch [18]	0.27m	0.40-0.67m
20	Cut	Ditch	0.41m	0.35-0.76m
21	Deposit	Fill of ditch[20]	0.41m	0.35-0.76m
22	Cut	Natural feature, probably an old hedge line, the base of which showed considerable rooting and disturbance	0.10m	0.42-0.52m
23	Deposit	Fill of [22]	0.10m	0.42-0.52m

#### Discussion

Trench 11 contained three linear archaeological features, one of which was identified as a former hedge line and was not investigated further.

The remaining two features, both ditches, ran parallel to each other, approximately 3.00m apart. No datable evidence was recovered from either ditch, and it cannot therefore be determined whether or not they are contemporary. It is noted, though, that the ditches are situated on the approximate alignment of the northeast to southwest Roman road recorded in the NHER database. They may also relate to the two parallel ditches [28] and [30] in Trench 12.



Plate 4. Ditch [18] in Trench 11



Plate 5. Ditch [20] in Trench 11

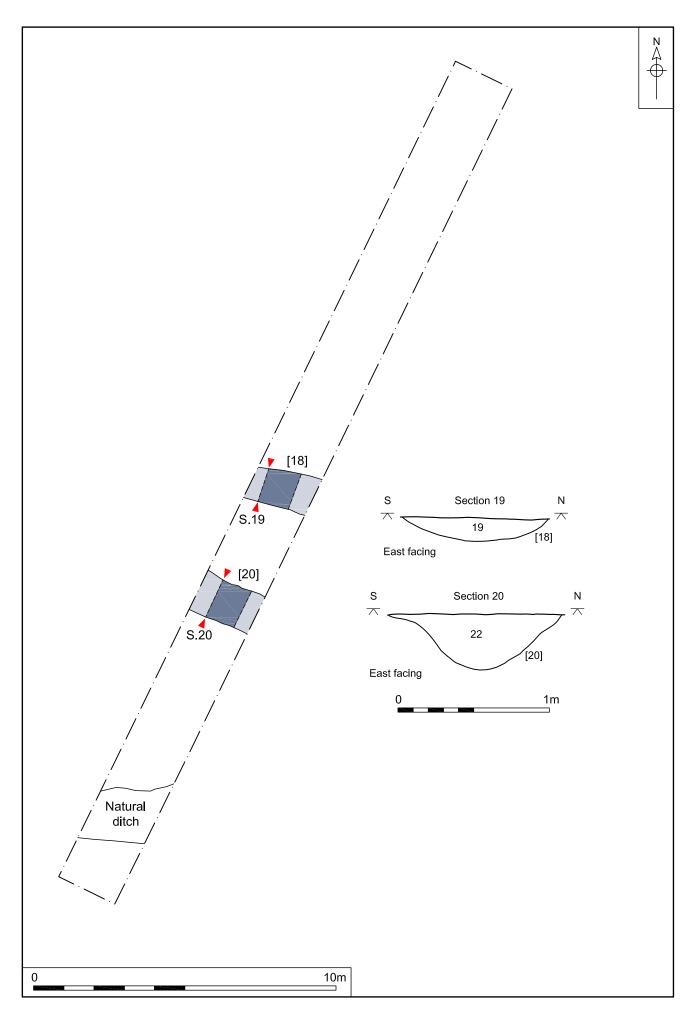


Figure 7. Trench 11, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25



Figures 2, 3 and 8, Plates 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10					
Location	Location				
Orientation Northeast to southwest					
Northeast end	625772 303792				
Southwest end	625766 303770				
Dimensions					
Length	30.00m				
Width	1.80m				
Depth	0.51m				
Levels					
Northeast top	48.79m OD				
Southwest top	49.06m OD				

TO PLAN	A State of the second			
Context	Туре	<b>Description and Interpretation</b>	Thickness	Depth BGL
26	Cut	Terminus of a ditch	0.25m	0.49-0.74m
27	Deposit	Fill of [26]	0.25m	0.49-0.74m
28	Cut	Ditch	0.30m	0.47-0.77m
29	Deposit	Fill of [28]	0.30m	0.47-0.77m
30	Cut	Ditch	0.20m	0.51-0.71m
31	Deposit	Fill of [30]	0.20m	0.51-0.71m
32	Cut	Terminus of a ditch	0.08m	0.53-0.61m
33	Deposit	Fill of [32]	0.08m	0.53-0.61m
34	Cut	Ditch	0.15m	0.52-0.63m
35	Deposit	Fill of [34]	0.15m	0.52-0.63m
Discussi	าท	1	1	1

#### Discussion

Five archaeological features were identified in Trench 12. These comprised three ditches and the end point or terminus of two other ditches.

Two of the ditches ([28] and [30]) ran parallel to each other, approximately 3.00m apart. They bear marked resemblance to the two parallel ditches [18] and [20] in Trench 11, although at this time it cannot be stated with any great certainty that they are the same features or even whether any of the ditches are contemporary.

However, the features share an alignment with the possible northwest to southeast Roman road recorded by the NHER, and the prospect should be considered that the ditches may relate to this significant landscape feature. Moreover, ditch [30] produced the only finds (a small collection of ceramics) from the entire site, and which date the ditch to the Roman period (1st to 4th century AD).



Plate 6. Ditch terminus [26] in Trench 12



Plate 7. Ditch [28] in Trench 12



Plate 8. Ditch [30] in Trench 12



Plate 9. Ditch terminus [32] in Trench 12



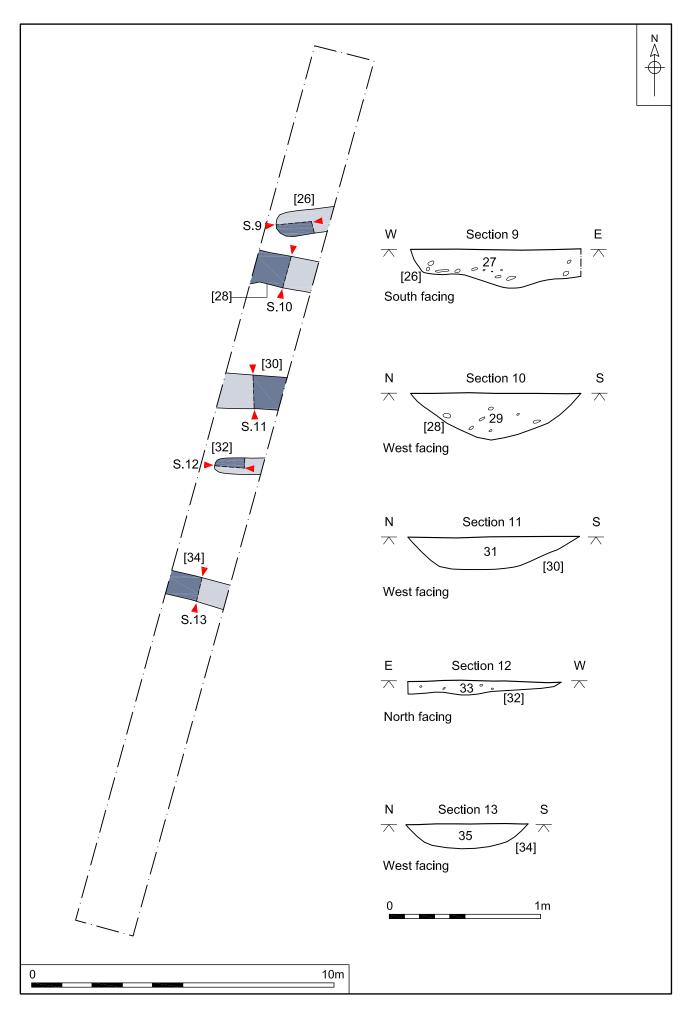


Figure 8. Trench 12, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25



Figures 2, 3 and	Figures 2, 3 and 9, Plates 11, 12, 13 and 14				
Location					
Orientation Northeast to southwest					
Northeast end 625787 303828					
Southwest end	625783 303805				
Dimensions					
Length	30.00m				
Width	1.80m				
Depth	0.43m				
Levels					
Northeast top	48.23m OD				
Southwest top	48.38m OD				

Context	Туре	<b>Description and Interpretation</b>	Thickness	Depth BGL
36	Cut	Ditch	0.20m	0.43-0.63m
37	Deposit	Fill of ditch [36]	0.20m	0.43-0.63m
38	Cut	Pit	0.18m	0.41-0.59m
39	Deposit	Fill of pit [38]	0.18m	0.41-0.59m
40	Cut	Pit [39]	0.55m	0.45-1.00m
41	Deposit	Lower fill of pit [40]	0.30m	0.70-1.00m
42	Deposit	Upper fill of pit [40]	0.25m	0.45-0.70m
43	Cut	Tree-throw hole	0.23m	0.43-0.66m
44	Deposit	Fill of tree-throw hole [43]	0.23m	0.43-0.66m
45	Cut	Pit	0.27m	0.39-0.66m
46	Deposit	Fill of pit [45]	0.27m	0.39-0.66m

#### Discussion

Trench 13 contained three pits, one ditch and a feature that was identified as a tree-throw hole. Pit [40] was significantly deeper than any of the other excavated features, and one of only two features at the site that contained more than a single fill, but it did not yield any archaeological artefacts and so cannot be dated.

The ditch, whilst also undated, is situated on the same northeast to southwest alignment as one of the Roman roads described in the NHER, and it should be deliberated whether the ditch and road may be related.

A linear feature identified by geophysics interpretations that runs broadly east-west across the north end of the development site, and was excavated in Trenches 14 and 15, should also have been intersected by Trench 13 but was not identified.



Plate 11. Ditch [36] in Trench 13



Plate 12. Pit [38] in Trench 13





Plate 14. Pit [45] in Trench 13

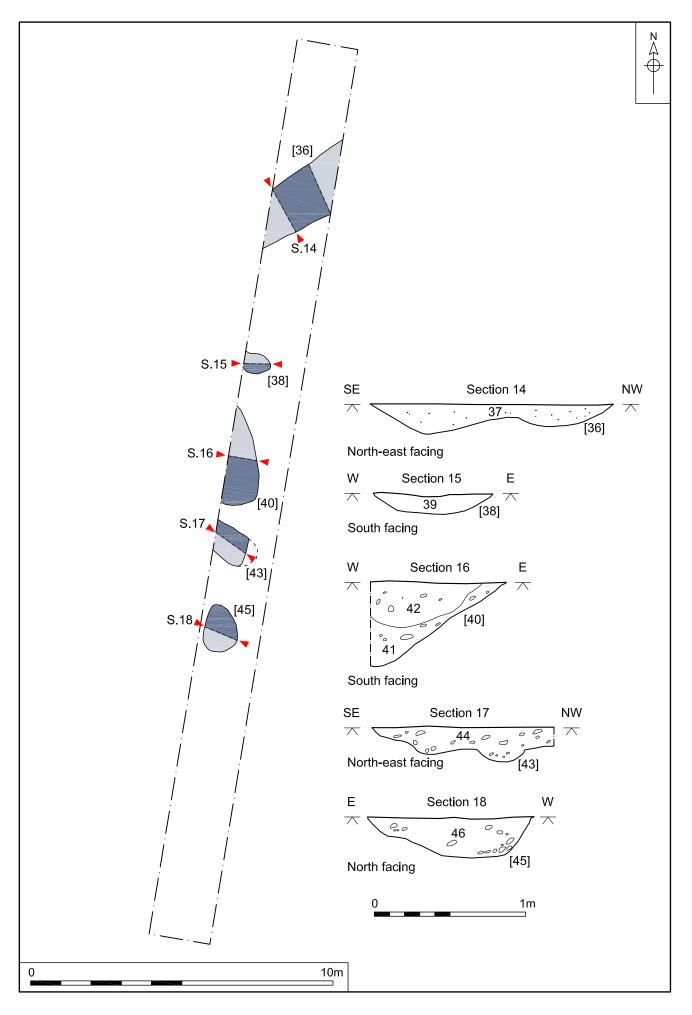


Figure 9. Trench 13, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench	14					
	Surger and	Constant Street	Figures 2, 3 and	I 10, Plate 15		
- Con	SAR A	the state	Location			
	ALC: NO	A COLORED IN	Orientation	Northwest to s	outheast	
7 4 Y		- 10-	Northwest end	625807 30380	9	
10	and the states		Southeast end	625825 30379	6	
10	ST. Contraction		Dimensions			
	Mar Maria	and and a state of	Length	30.0m		
100			Width	1.80m		
	Car the state	and the second	Depth	0.34m		
			Levels			
	E. A.		Northwest top	48.24m OD		
			Southeast top	48.47m OD		
Context	Туре	Description a	nd Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL	
15	Cut	Ditch aligned east-west across the width of the trench		0.45m	0.34-0.79m	
16	Deposit	Primary fill of [15]		0.15m	0.64-0.79m	
10		Secondary fill of [15]				
17	Deposit	Secondary fill of	0[15]	0.30m	0.34-0.64m	

Trench 14 contained a single ditch aligned east-west and in-line with the low resistance linear anomaly identified by the geophysical survey over which the Trench was positioned. The ditch contained two episodes of in-filling, but no dating evidence was recovered.



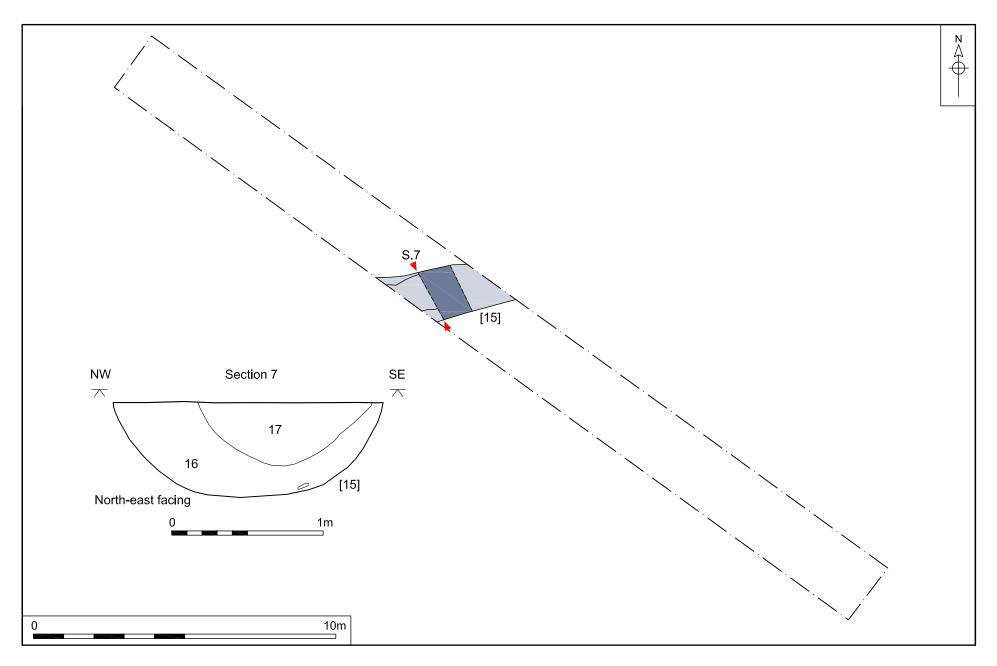


Figure 10. Trench 14, plan and section. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench 15					
the second second second	Figures 2, 3 and 11, Plates 16 and 17				
	Location				
	Orientation	Northeast to southwest			
	Northeast end	625868 303814			
	Southwest end	625853 303796			
The Part in the	Dimensions				
A CONTRACTOR OF A CONTRACTOR A	Length	30.00m			
A CONTRACT OF A CONTRACT OF	Width	1.80m			
	Depth	0.31m			
	Levels				
	Northeast top	47.93m OD			
	Southwest top	48.26m OD			

Context	Туре	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
07	Cut	Ditch	0.48m	0.31-0.79m
08	Deposit	Fill of [07]	0.48m	0.31-0.79m
09	Cut	Pit	0.25m	0.30-0.55m
10	Deposit	Fill of [09]	0.25m	0.30-0.55m
D'		·		

## Discussion

Trench 15 contained one ditch and one pit. The ditch most likely represents the same major east-west linear anomaly identified by the geophysical survey and excavated in Trench 14. It contained a single fill and did not provide any dating evidence.

Likewise, the shallow pit, which was contained wholly within the trench, was undated.



Plate 16. Ditch [07] in Trench 15



Plate 17. Pit [09] in Trench 15

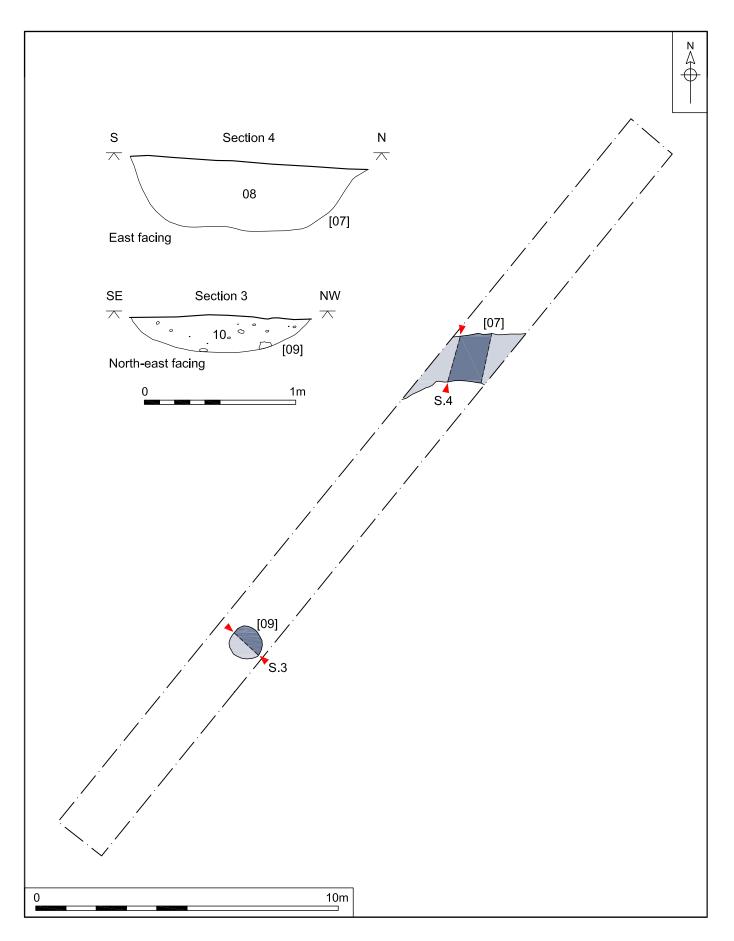


Figure 11. Trench 15, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

Trench	16					
Figures 2, 3 and 12, Plate 18						
			Location			
Same - March			Orientation	East to west		
10 - 14	2	C.t.	East end	625854 303824		
and the second			West end	625831 303824		
	AR AND	a a care a c	Dimensions			
A	K Faller	- in	Length	30.00m		
S	1-1-2	A State	Width	1.80m		
	Salat and		Depth	0.58m		
40	A Transf		Levels			
	B I		East top	48.05m OD		
		(	West top	47.00m OD		
Context	Туре	Description ar	nd Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL	
03	Cut	Ditch aligned n the width of the	orth-south across trench	0.18m	0580.76m	
04	Deposit	Fill of ditch [03]		0.18m	0.58-0.76m	
05	Cut	the south side the west before	ch entering from e and bending to e curving back to rench edge in an	0.20m	0 530.73m	
06	Deposit	Fill of [05]		0.20m	0.53-0.73m	
Discussi	on			<u> </u>	1	

## Discussion

Trench 16 contained two ditches, one of which entered the trench from the south side and curved in an arc to the west before exiting the trench to the south once more. The full diameter of this arc, if extrapolated to a full circle, would be 13.25m.

The other ditch ran north-south and displayed significant truncation to its east edge, probably caused by a hedge growing along side the ditch. This feature corresponds with a linear anomaly identified in the geophysical data. Neither of the ditches provided any dating evidence.

# Trench 16 Image: Second seco

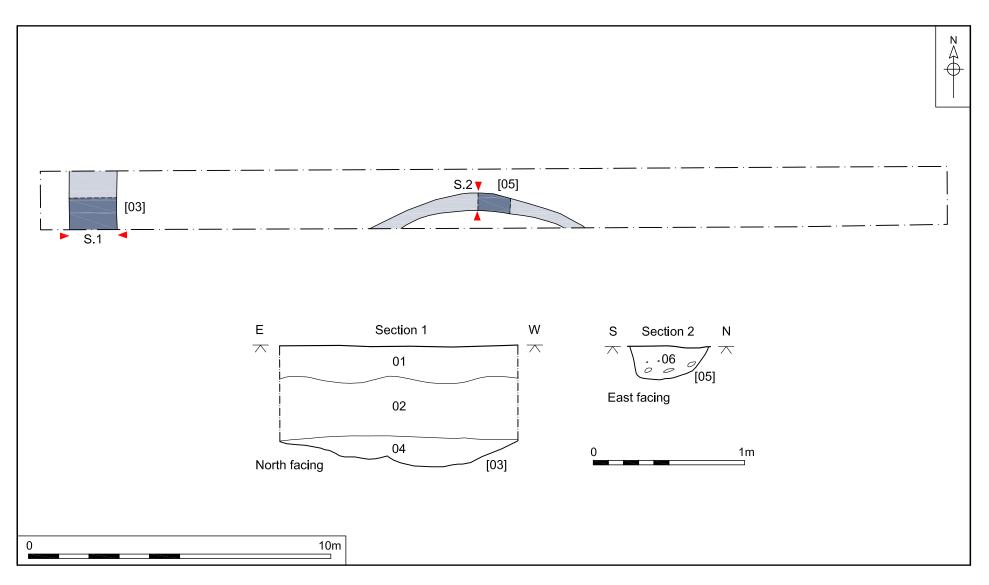


Figure 12. Trench 16, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

NEL CONTRACTOR OFFICE	Figures 2, 3 and	13, Plates 19 and 20
	Location	
	Orientation	Northwest to southeast
	Northwest end	625833 303847
	Southeast end	625853 303837
AND A CONTRACT OF	Dimensions	
	Length	30.00m
	Width	1.80m
	Depth	0.55m
	Levels	
	Northwest top	47.76m OD
	Southeast top	48.08m OD
	· • • · · · · · ·	

	And a second	The second s		
Context	Туре	<b>Description and Interpretation</b>	Thickness	Depth BGL
53	Cut	Gully	0.10m	0.55-0.65m
54	Deposit	Fill of [53]	0.10m	0.55-0.65m
55	Cut	Ditch	0.15m	0.61-0.76m
56	Deposit	Fill of [56]	0.15m	0.61-0.76m
Disquasia		·	·	·

### Discussion

Trench 17 contained a narrow gully aligned east-west and a second feature that was very mixed and truncated. Sufficient of the original form of the mixed feature survived along its north edge to be able to ascertain that it was probably the remains of a ditch that had almost entirely been destroyed by rooting and burrowing. No finds were recovered from either of the two features.

In addition, the trench was positioned to explore a high resistance area anomaly identified in geophysical interpretations, but of which no evidence was found.



Plate 19. Gully [53] in Trench17



Plate 20. Ditch [55] in Trench 17

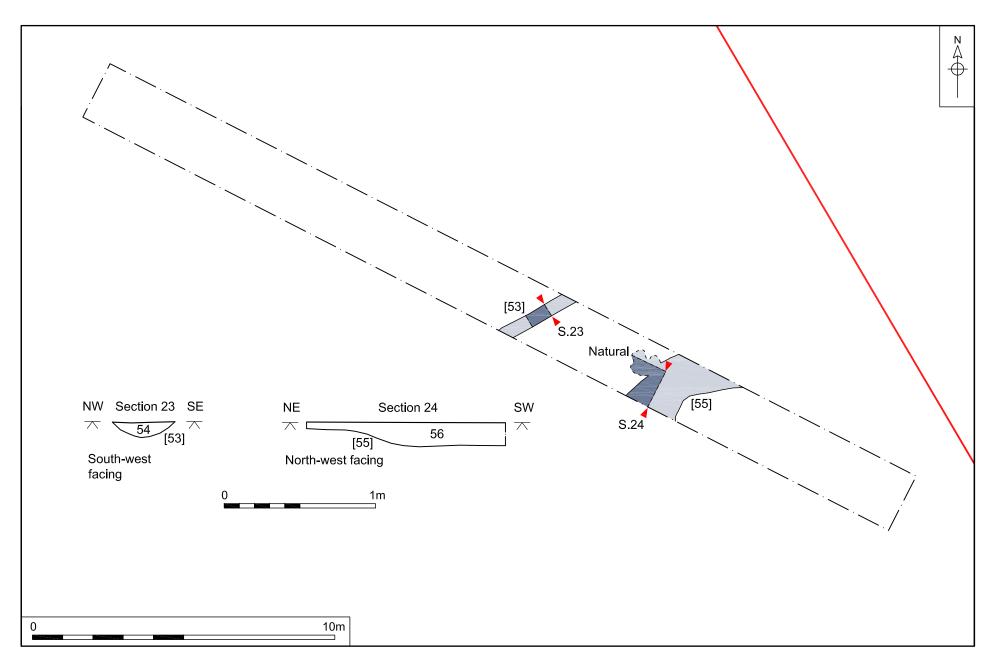


Figure 13. Trench 17, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

	and the second
and the second s	CONTRACTOR OF THE OWNER
	A DEPENDENCE OF
A REAL PROPERTY AND A REAL	
	And the second second
	THE OWNER WAS ADDRESSED.
and a state of the second s	CONTRACTOR OF STREET, SALES
	A STATE OF A
	Contraction of the second second
	In the Proventients
	A REAL PROPERTY OF THE REAL PR
	ACCURATE A STATE OF A
	the lot of the Hard States of the
	and the second se
Contraction of the second s	ALL MARKED BEAM AND
State of the second state	
The second se	MACHINE & HER WARDEN
A REAL PROPERTY AND A REAL	AND AND A DECK
A DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF T	NA COM WING AND
A REAL PROPERTY AND A REAL PROPERTY.	
A DECK OF A	States to States
AND A DESCRIPTION OF A	STATE OF THE OWNER WATER OF THE OWNER OWNER OF THE OWNER OWNE
A CALL AND A	- Brits Charges Contraction
	And the second sec
A DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF T	Contraction of the local sector
AND	The second s
and the second sec	of the state of th
the state of the s	and the second second second second
	and the second second second
	Contraction of the second second
	and the second second
a second and the second second second second second	And the second s
	AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF THE
	The second second second second second
and the second sec	A REAL PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF
	COMPANY AND AND A DESCRIPTION OF A DESCR
and the second se	THE DECTOR
A REAL PROPERTY OF THE REAL PR	
	The operation of the second
	and the second s
AND DECIDENT OF THE OWNER OF THE	inter and the second
	all contract many affect
	STATISTICS TO AN A PARTY
and the second s	NAME OF THE OWNER WATCHING TO BE
A REAL PROPERTY AND A REAL	A DATE OF A DESCRIPTION
and the second s	was an and the second
	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Contraction of the second s	ALL
and the second	the second s
	and the second second second
CALLS NOT THE AVENUE AND A STATE	A REAL PROPERTY AND INC.
A State of the sta	ALL DESCRIPTION OF THE OWNER.
and the second of the second se	And a second
The lite of Grant is interested and the	State of the loss of the loss of
	and the second sec
P AND REPORT OF THE PARTY OF TH	And I REAL PROPERTY AND INCOME.

Figures 2, 3 and	Figures 2, 3 and 14, Plates 21 and 22				
Location					
Orientation	Northeast to southwest				
Northeast end	625814 303857				
Southwest end	625807 303835				
Dimensions					
Length	30.0m				
Width	1.80m				
Depth	0.50m				
Levels					
Northeast top	47.56m OD				
Southwest top	47.93m OD				

Context	Туре	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Depth BGL
11	Cut	Terminus of a ditch	0.20m	0.50-0.70m
12	Deposit	Fill of [11]	0.20m	0.50-0.70m
13	Cut	Pit	0.13m	0.55-0.68m
14	Deposit	Fill of [13]	0.13m	0.55-0.68m
Discussio	, 	I		

### Discussion

Two features were identified in Trench 18: a shallow pit and a ditch terminus. The end of the ditch was significantly disturbed by a tree-throw hole. Neither pit nor ditch yielded any dating evidence.

The trench had been positioned to investigate a linear anomaly identified in the geophysical interpretations that would have crossed this trench. The features excavated, while close to this identified anomaly, were probably not the one identified in the geophysics survey, of which there was no clear evidence.



Plate 21. Ditch terminus [11] in Trench 18



Plate 22. Pit [13] in Trench 18

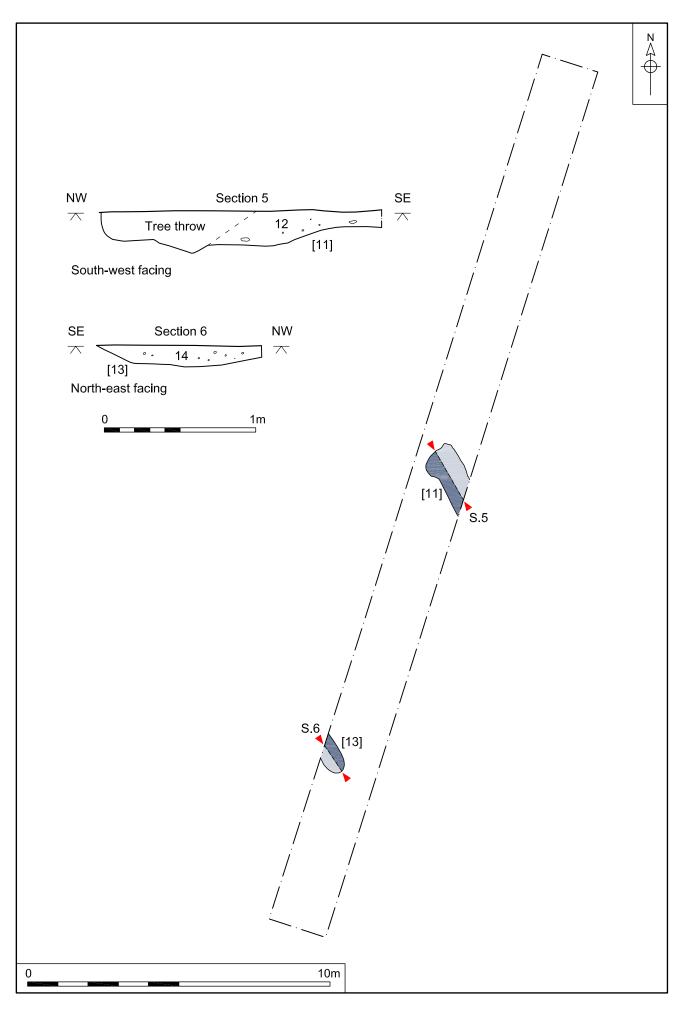


Figure 14. Trench 18, plan and sections. Scale 1:125 and 1:25

# 6.0 THE ARTEFACTUAL MATERIAL

by Rebecca Sillwood

Finds were processed and recorded by count and weight, and information entered onto an MS Excel spreadsheet.

The finds are listed by context in Appendix 2a.

## 6.1 Pottery

Five fragments of Roman pottery were recovered from ditch [30], fill (31).

The fragments include two base sherds and three body sherds from a sandy greyware vessel (Plate 23). The fabric is pale grey with a reduced darker grey core, and with darker grey margins that are significantly abraded. Inclusions consist of mica and quartz pebbles.

Greyware was the ubiquitous utilitarian tableware of the Roman period, and was current from the 1st through to the 4th century AD. These pottery sherds from Bixley are quite abraded, but are clearly from one vessel and may not have travelled far from their point of deposition.



Plate 23. Roman pottery from ditch [31], Trench 12

# 7.0 CONCLUSIONS

Seventeen of the planned total of 18 trenches were opened across the proposed development site. The majority of these trenches were targeted on locations of magnetic anomalies interpreted from geophysical survey data (Stratascan 2011), and of crop marks recorded from aerial photos held by NHER.

Eleven of the trenches contained archaeological deposits. For the most part, the excavations corroborated the interpretations of the geophysical data, particularly in regard to the identification and location of linear features. Other areas of magnetic anomaly revealed by the geophysical survey proved to be natural geological features or the result of modern disturbance from the road to the east of the site and the housing estate to the south.

In spite of the large number of trenches excavated and a relatively high incidence of archaeological features, there was a surprising dearth of finds or other relevant dating evidence. Twenty-six archaeological features were revealed in the excavated trenches, 21 of which were ditches and five of which were pits. This evidence may indicate that historically the land was not used for habitation or settlement, but was under agricultural use, divided by a series of field boundaries formed by ditches and hedge lines.

The ditches that occur in Trenches 10, 11 and 12, however, raise the prospect that some or all of these features may relate to the possible Roman road recorded by the NHER that crosses the proposed development site from northwest to southeast. Notably, a ditch in Trench 12 produced the only dating evidence from the entire site, five sherds of Roman pottery from the same vessel.

Although it is not stated with certainty, there also seems a good chance that the parallel ditches recorded in Trench 11 are a continuation of the same features that appear in Trench 12, and that the ditches themselves are contemporary. These ditch pairs are comparable in form and are consistently 3.00m apart. Whilst it is acknowledged that the ditches are probably too small and too close together to delimit a Roman road, they may perhaps represent a trackway, or one ditch line may represent a roadside drain with the other forming a parallel field boundary ditch.

All of the ditches excavated run on broadly straight alignments except for the curving gully that appeared in Trench 16. This is shaped in a regular arc and was not identified by the geophysical survey. If the curve of the ditch is extrapolated, it forms a circle 13.25m in diameter.

Recommendations for mitigation work (if required, based on the evidence presented in this report), will be made by NHES.

## Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank the following for their contribution to the project.

Special thanks are extended to Rowan Easter who commissioned the work on behalf of La Ronde Wright Ltd.

Excavation was undertaken by the author along with Juan Pinero.

Machining of the trenches was undertaken by Peter of Bryn Williams Civil Engineering Ltd.

The evaluation was monitored by James Albone (NHES).

The finds were processed, recorded, and reported on by Rebecca Sillwood.

The report was illustrated by David Dobson and edited by Andrew Crowson.

## **Bibliography and Sources**

BGS (British Geological Survey)	1991	East Anglia, Sheet 52N 00 Quaternary, 1:250,000 series
BGS (British Geological Survey)	1985	East Anglia, Sheet 52N 00 Solid Geology, 1:250,000 series
Department for Communities and Local Government	2012	National Planning Policy Framework
Stratascan	2011	Bixley Geophysical report (unpublished)

http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html Accessed 18.08.2014

Context	Category	Cut Type	Fill Of	Description	Period	Trench
1	layer			Topsoil		All
2	layer			Subsoil		All
3	Cut	Ditch				16
4	Deposit		3			16
5	Cut	Ditch		Curvilinear ditch		16
6	Deposit		5			16
7	Cut	Ditch				15
8	Deposit		7			15
9	Cut	Pit				15
10	Deposit		9			15
11	Cut	Terminus		Terminus of ditch		18
12	Deposit		11			18
13	Cut	Pit				18
14	Deposit		13			18
15	Cut	Ditch				14
16	Deposit		15			14
17	Deposit		16			14
18	Cut	Ditch				11
19	Deposit		18			11
20	Cut	Ditch				11
21	Deposit		20			11
22	Cut	Amorphous		Former hedge line		11
23	Deposit		22			11
24	Cut	Ditch				2
25	Deposit		24			2
26	Cut	Terminus		Terminus of ditch		12
27	Deposit		26			12
28	Cut	Ditch				12
29	Deposit		28			12
30	Cut	Ditch				12
31	Deposit		30		Roman	12
32	Cut	Terminus		Terminus of ditch	Roman	12
33	Deposit		32			12
34	Cut	Ditch				12
35	Deposit		34			12
36	Cut	Ditch				13
37	Deposit	D'(	36			13
38	Cut	Pit				13
39	Deposit	Dit	38			13
40	Cut	Pit				13
41	Deposit		40			13
42	Deposit	A	40			13
43	Cut	Amorphous		Tree-throw		13
44	Deposit		43			13
45	Cut	Pit		Pit		13
46	Deposit		45			13

# Appendix 1a: Context Summary

47	Cut	Ditch			1
48	Deposit		47		1
49	Cut	Ditch			1
50	Deposit		49		1
51	Cut	Ditch			1
52	Deposit		51		1
53	Cut	Gully			17
54	Deposit		53		17
55	Cut	Ditch			17
56	Deposit		55		17
57	Cut	Ditch			10
58	Deposit		57		10

# Appendix 1b: OASIS Feature Summary

Period	Category	Total
Roman	Ditch	1
Unknown	Ditch	16
	Pit	5
	Ditch terminus	3
	Gully	1

# Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period
31	Pottery	5	112g	Roman

## Appendix 2b: OASIS Finds Summary

Period	Material	Total
Roman	Pottery	5

Appendix 3: OASIS Report Summary

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

## **Printable version**

## OASIS ID: norfolka1-177639

#### **Project details**

Project name Land off Bungay Road, Bixley, Norfolk

Short description of the project	An archaeological trial trench evaluation was conducted for La Ronde Wright Ltd as part of planning proposals for possible housing development of land off Bungay Road, Bixley, Norfolk. Although the initial intention was to excavate 18 trenches, it was only possible to open 17 due to the location of buried services. The siting of the trenches was informed by the identification of crop marks showing on aerial photographs taken in 1946, and by interpretations of the results of a geophysical survey carried out in 2011. Fourteen of the trenches were thus positioned over linear features and other areas of potential archaeological interest, whilst the remaining trenches were located to explore areas apparently devoid of archaeological features. Eleven trenches contained archaeological evidence, ten of which correlated directly to archaeological interpretations of the geophysical survey. One trench (Trench 2) contained a linear feature that had not been recognised previously. Many of the non-linear features excavated proved to be of natural origin. Only one feature, a ditch in Trench 12, provided dating evidence. The find of Roman-period pottery suggests the possibility of activity related to a Roman road that may have run across the prospective development site.
Project dates	Start: 07-07-2014 End: 10-07-2014
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ENF134716 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Monument type	GULLY Uncertain
Significant Finds	POT Roman
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential

Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination

## **Project location**

Country	England
Site location	NORFOLK SOUTH NORFOLK BIXLEY Land off Bungay Road
Study area	2.76 Hectares
Site coordinates	TG 2584 0374 52.5839669027 1.33407785368 52 35 02 N 001 20 02 E Point

## **Project creators**

Name of Organisation	NPS Archaeology
Project brief originator	Norfolk Historic Environment Service
Project design originator	NPS Archaeology
Project director/manager	Nigel Page
Project supervisor	Rob Brown

## **Project archives**

Physical Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums Service
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	NPS Archaeology
Digital Contents	"Ceramics","other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums Service
Paper Contents	"Ceramics","other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Plan","Report","Section"

## Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at Bungay Road, Bixley, Norfolk
Author(s)/Editor (s)	Brown, R.
Other bibliographic details	Report 2014/1036
Date	2014

Issuer or NPS Archaeology publisher Place of issue or Norwich publication

Entered byJ Bown (jayne.bown@nps.co.uk)Entered on3 November 2014

# **OASIS:**

Please e-mail English Heritage for OASIS help and advice © ADS 1996-2012 Created by Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham, email Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012 Cite only: http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm for this page Appendix 4: Archaeological Specification

Brief for Archaeological Trial Trenching at Bungay Road, Bixley and Norwich Road, Poringland



BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING AT BUNGAY ROAD, BIXLEY AND NORWICH ROAD, PORINGLAND NORFOLK

PLANNING AUTHORITY:	South Norfolk Council
PLANNING APPLICATION NO .:	2012/0405/O
HES REFERENCE	CNF43324
ASSOCIATED.	Yes
NHER NO. FOR THIS PROJECT:	To be arranged
GRID REFERENCE:	TG 2584 0374
MAP EXTRACT ATTACHED:	No
DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL:	Residential
AREA:	Total site area 2.76ha
CURRENT LAND USE:	Arable/Vacant
ISSUED BY:	James Albone
	Planning Archaeologist
	Historic Environment Service
	Environment, Transport and Development
	Union House, Gressenhall
	Dereham, Norfolk NR20 4DR
	Tel: 01362 869279 (direct)
	james.albone@norfolk.gov.uk
DATE:	26 <sup>th</sup> February 2014

Communication for all

If you need this document in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact James Albone on 01362 869279 and we will do our best to help.

## Summary

An archaeological geophysical survey has been carried out at the proposed development site and the results have been submitted in support of the planning application. The geophysical survey identified possible archaeological features and the results support the previous cropmark evidence recorded at the site. Consequently there is a high potential that heritage assets with archaeological interest (buried archaeological remains) will be present at the site and that their significance would be adversely affected by the proposed development. A further phase of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching is required to determine the extent and type of any archaeological mitigatory work required.

Planning Permission has been granted subject to conditions for a Programme of Archaeological Work (hereafter PoAW). Trial trenching is required to determine the presence/absence, date, extent, state of preservation and significance of any archaeological layers or subsoil archaeological features. The trial trenching may indicate a need for a further phase of archaeological excavation or an archaeological monitoring during the development if features of importance are found and these cannot be preserved *in situ*.

# 1. Policy Background

The relevant planning policies can be found in :-

Broadland District Council, Norwich City Council and South Norfolk Council Joint Core Strategy for Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk (Adopted March 2011) Policies 1 and 8

and

Department of Communities and Local Government *National Planning Policy Framework* (Adopted March 2012)

# 2. Archaeological Background

Cropmarks of undated and Roman boundary ditches and a possible Roman road have previously been identified at the proposed development site. An archaeological geophysical survey has been carried out at the site and the results have been submitted in support of the planning application<sup>1</sup>. The geophysical survey identified possible archaeological features and the results support the previous cropmark evidence recorded at the site. Consequently there is a high potential that heritage assets with archaeological interest (buried archaeological remains) will be present at the site and that their significance would be adversely affected by the proposed development. A further phase of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching is required to determine the extent and type of any archaeological mitigatory work required.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Marsh, B.P. 2011 Interim Report on Geophysical Survey at Bungay Road, Poringland, Norfolk. Stratascan Report J3009

## 3. Planning Background

Planning Permission has been granted, subject to conditions for a PoAW. This brief provides an outline of the first phase of the PoAW, the results of which will be assessed by the Historic Environment Service to determine whether further investigations (excavation or monitoring) are necessary should archaeological remains be found to exist on the site and these cannot be preserved *in situ*.

## 4. Requirement for Work

Trial trenching is required to recover as much information as possible on the extent, date, phasing, character, function, status and significance of the site. The states of preservation of archaeological features or deposits within the area indicated should be determined.

A total of eighteen  $30m \times 1.8m$  trenches are required equating to a c.3.5% sample of the proposed development site. Trenches should primarily be targeted on possible features identified by the geophysical survey and cropmark plots as well as investigating a sample of apparently 'blank' areas of the site.

Contractors should note that no element of this brief should be treated as a contingency unless agreed in advance with the Historic Environment Service.

The trenches must characterise the full archaeological sequence down to undisturbed deposits. In the interests of reproduction of the results, a single context planning methodology must be used and a matrix of the sequence created on site.

Provision should be made for the sampling of deposits for the analysis of palaeoenvironmental remains and for the scientific dating of deposits, artefacts or ecofacts where appropriate. Sampling strategies should be agreed during the course of the excavation in consultation with Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service and the English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science.

Project Designs must confirm that relevant health and safety considerations have been built in. The potential of the area being contaminated by toxins must have been adequately investigated or plans for a pre-project investigation of ground conditions outlined. Appropriate tools for the job must be utilised and consideration for this shown in the Project Design.

The relevant experience of the project team must be articulated within the Project Design. In particular the person leading the project in the field must have significant experience of appropriate archaeological methods, theory and safe practice.

The Archaeological Contractor will prepare a Method Statement or

Specification for this phase of the Programme of Archaeological Work and submit this to the Historic Environment Service for approval *before* costs are prepared for the commissioning client. The Programme of Archaeological Work will include, as appropriate, background research, fieldwork, assessment, analysis, preparation of report, publication and deposition of the project archive.

The Archaeological Contractor will contact the HER Officer of the Historic Environment Service in advance of work starting to obtain a HER number for the site or, if a number is already given on the Brief, to ensure that it is still applicable.<sup>2</sup>

The archaeological research aims and objectives of the project will be clearly stated, and the Method Statement or Specification will demonstrate how these will be met. Appropriate reference will be made to the :-

Medlycott, M (ed.) (2011) *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper **24** 

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.

When the project is completed, all parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the Norfolk Historic Environment Record. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report.

A copy of the OASIS form must be included in the final report.

Hard copies of the report must also be provided, as specified below.

## 5. Standards

Method Statements or Specifications prepared by Archaeological Consultants or Contractors should state that all works will be carried out in full accordance with the appropriate sections of Gurney, D., 2003, '**Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England**', as adopted by the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers for the East of England Region and published as *East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper* 14. This is available as a PDF file on the web at <u>www.eaareports.org.uk</u>

Archaeological Contractors should note that the **Standards** document stipulates basic *methodological* standards. It is considered axiomatic that all contractors will strive to achieve the highest possible *qualitative* standards, with the application of the most advanced and appropriate techniques possible within a context of continuous improvement aimed at maximising the recovery of archaeological data and contributing to the development of a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Norfolk Historic Environment Record: <u>heritage@norfolk.gov.uk</u>, 01362 869282

greater understanding of Norfolk's historic environment. Monitoring officers will seek and expect clear evidence of commitment to the historic resource of Norfolk, with specifications being drawn up within a context of added value.

## 6. Other matters

The Method Statement or Specification should indicate the number of person days allocated to the fieldwork stage of the project

The Historic Environment Service will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project. The Archaeological Contractor will give the Historic Environment Service not less that two weeks' written notice of the commencement of the work, so that arrangements for monitoring the project can be made.

Any subsequent variation to a Detailed Project Specification or Method Statement must be agreed with the Historic Environment Service prior to its implementation.

Two hard copies and a PDF copy on CD of the Report should be supplied to the Historic Environment Service for the attention of the Senior Historic Environment Officer (Planning) within eight weeks of the completion of the fieldwork on the understanding that this will become a public document after an appropriate period of time (generally not exceeding six months). A third copy should be included with any planning application.

A fourth copy of the report should be sent directly to the Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science, English Heritage, Brooklands House, 24 Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge CB2 8BU.

## 7. Notes for Applicants/developers

The Historic Environment Service is responsible for safeguarding the County's historic environment. The Historic Environment Service is consulted by Local Planning Authorities and provides specialist information and advice on the archaeological implications of development proposals.

An Archaeological Project will usually consist of one or more of the following:-

**Desk-based assessment**: a report drawing together existing information about a site from a wide range of sources.

**Survey:** usually fieldwalking and metal-detecting, sometimes non-intrusive geophysical surveys (e.g. magnetometer survey)

**Evaluation:** survey and/or trial-trenching or test-pitting.

**Excavation:** larger-scale excavation

**Monitoring of Works Under Archaeological Supervision and Control**: the presence of an archaeologist during the development to record any features exposed

**Post-excavation**: analysis, and the preparation of a report and archive of records and finds at the end of any archaeological project

A phased approach to fieldwork is frequently adopted, with one stage leading on to another (if necessary) after each phase is reported upon and reviewed.

If an evaluation is required before an application is determined or if Planning Permission is granted subject to a condition for a programme of archaeological work, the Historic Environment Service will provide a **Brief** for the archaeological project. This outline of the project is forwarded to you by the Historic Environment Service or the Planning Authority.

You should then ask one or more Archaeological Contractors to prepare a **Method Statement** or **Specification** which will detail how the project is to be undertaken, and how the brief will be fulfilled. This will be sent to the Historic Environment Service for approval on behalf of the Planning Authority, after which the Contractor will give you details of costs.

Details of archaeological contractors based in Norfolk and beyond may be found in the Institute for Archaeologists Yearbook & Directory, available from the I.F.A., University of Reading, 2 Earley Gate, PO Box 239, Reading RG6 6AU. Tel: 0118 931 6446. Fax: 0118 931 6448. Email: <u>admin@archaeologists.net</u>. Website: <u>www.archaeologists.net</u>, or the Yellow Pages.

The Historic Environment Service does not see Contractors' costings, nor do we give advice on the costs of archaeological projects. This is between you and the archaeological contractor(s). You may wish to obtain a number of quotations or to employ the services of an archaeological consultant.

For further information or advice on any archaeological matters please contact the person issuing this report whose details are on Page1.