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nps archaeology

Archaeological Excavation at Maltings Farm, The Street, Hepworth, Suffolk

HEP 033

Prepared for

Burgess Homes Ltd The Grove Magpie Green Wortham Norfolk IP22 1RG







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NISP

Location:	Maltings Farm, The Street, Hepworth, Suffolk
District:	St Edmundsbury Borough Council
Grid Ref.:	TL 9859 7465
Planning Ref.:	SE/12/0646/FUL
HER No.:	HEP 033
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Client:	Burgess Homes Ltd
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Summary

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by NPS Archaeology in September 2014 for Burgess Homes Ltd ahead of housing construction on a plot of land at Maltings Farm, The Street, Hepworth in Suffolk.

The excavation followed and was informed by an archaeological evaluation of the development site. The evaluation revealed ditch, pit and post-hole features, which demonstrated division and occupation of the plot from the Late Saxon period until the 14th century (Payne 2014).

The excavation recorded a group of archaeological features dated to the medieval period. The features consisted of ditches, gullies and small pits/post-holes, interpreted as being typical of medieval roadside development.

There appeared to be evidence for more than one phase of activity. The date range for two medieval boundary ditches ended in the 11th and 12th centuries, whilst the date range for others ended in the 14th century. This indicated reorganisation of medieval tenement plots on the site from the 11th through to the 14th century. There was also possible evidence for the use of the medieval perch measurement (c. 5.00m) as the unit of organisation for the plots.

Several of the small pits/post-holes may have formed part of an agricultural structure, or a low status domestic dwelling; the features cut the backfilled ditches and are indicative of further change in land use. The lack of evidence for activity after the 14th century may indicate that the plots were subsumed into a larger property, or it could perhaps represent a declining population following years of plague in the mid-14th century, which caused contraction in village size.

The excavation has usefully added to the debate on the origin and growth of smaller rural settlements, which has been highlighted as a research topic for the medieval period in the east of England.

INTRODUCTION

Figure 1

- 1 The proposed development was located at Maltings Farm, adjacent to The Street, at the south end of Hepworth village. The overall plot measured 0.15ha, although the Brief required that only a partial footprint of the development be excavated. The proposed development was for the construction of four dwellings and three garages. The area of one house and the driveway did not require excavation of the footprint due to the negative results of an archaeological evaluation in that part of the site (Payne 2014) and the limited impact of below ground works.
- 2 The work was undertaken to fulfil planning requirements set by St Edmundsbury Borough Council (SE/12/0646/FUL) and a Brief (SCCAS(RM)_0646) issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (Monk 2014). The work was conducted in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (01-04-15-2-1076) prepared by NPS Archaeology (Page 2014). The project was commissioned and funded by Burgess Homes Ltd.
- 3 The programme of work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed development area, following the 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.
- 4 The site archive is currently held at the offices of NPS Archaeology and on completion of the project will be deposited with the Suffolk Store or relevant museum following the relevant policies on archiving standards.



Figure 1. Site location with SHER sites in the vicinity. Scale 1:5000

GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5 The development site was situated north of and adjacent to Maltings Farm in a small grassed plot, which had probably been used as a paddock until recently. The plot was surrounded by small shrubs and trees, and the boundaries of other properties. The site was level at *c*. 46.00m OD, although on its east side there was a steep slope down to the road frontage (The Street).
- 6 The topsoil [68] on the site consisted of light brown clayey silt, contained small sub-angular flints, and was turfed over. The topsoil was *c*. 0.20m thick on average. It had built up in the relatively recent past, as it was situated above a levelling deposit [69] formed of light, chalky clayey silt, with frequent large and small fragments of chalk. The levelling layer was 0.25m thick on average. The artificially levelled layer probably explains the general flatness of the plot, as well as the steeper slope down to the road. At the base of the sequence, a layer of subsoil [70] formed of firm, light brown clayey silt with occasional chalk flecks was recorded. It was 0.20–0.25m thick and appeared to seal the archaeological features.
- 7 There are no major watercourses close to the site. A straight drain can be seen on maps within 500m to the west, and an unnamed stream runs into the village *c*. 500m to the north (http://www.bing.com/maps).
- 8 The underlying geology is Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation and Culver Chalk Formation, sedimentary bedrock formed 71–94 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. The superficial geology is Lowestoft Formation Diamicton, which formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary period (http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

9 A search of data held by the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) within a radius of 500m, centred on the site, was commissioned from Suffolk County Council. The overwhelming majority of the entries were situated within Hepworth village centre to the north of the site. Supplementary information is supplied from the *Historical Atlas of Suffolk* (Dymond and Martin 1999).

Prehistoric to Roman

- 10 There are few sites recorded in the *Historical Atlas of Suffolk* for the Palaeolithic (Wymer 1999, 33), Mesolithic (Wymer 1999, 35), Neolithic (Martin 1999, 37), and Bronze Age (Martin 1999, 39) periods. This has been explained in terms of the hard clay soil—which was less useful to exploit for hunting, and subsequently farming—and the lack of significant watercourses. However, in the Iron Age, many settlement sites are recorded in the area to the east of the parish of Wattisfield, although there appears to have been less activity around Hepworth itself (Martin 1999, 41).
- 11 There are two prehistoric find spots within the 500m search area. Approximately 250m to the northeast of the current site, HEP 015 records the position of a polished flint axe labelled 'Hepworth Churchyard Palaeolithic celt found 1889', which is thought to have been unearthed in the churchyard by a grave-digger, and given to Mr George Hills. A short distance from here, a further entry, MSF 11880, records the finding of a small prehistoric hand-axe. It was probably found by Miss Emma Hills on the field to the east of Hepworth Church in *c*. 1889.
- 12 At the south end of the 500m study area, HEP 020 records finds made by metal detector in 1998. Amongst items of multi-period dates, there was a Late Bronze Age spearhead tip (with a slightly off-centre socket), which is a rare object.
- **13** The *Historical Atlas of Suffolk* (Plouviez 1999, 43) indicates that Pakenham/Ixworth and Icklingham, close to the present site in northwest Suffolk, were major Roman centres. Several other, smaller Roman settlements were clustered in the parish of Stanton. Roman kilns are known from Wattisfield, although there is little evidence from the Roman period further north. Postulated Roman roads from Pakenham/Ixworth head northwards to the west of Hepworth through Bardwell parish.
- 14 Some Roman find spots are recorded within the 500m search area. A little over 200m to the northwest of the current site, HEP 017 records 10 Roman coins amongst metal-detector finds in 1996. Another coin, an Antoninianus of Carinus (AD 283–5), was recorded as HEP 008. Approximately 100m north along The Street, four Roman pottery sherds were found during fieldwalking in 1986 (HEP Misc - MSF8169).
- **15** The position of two sherds of prehistoric pottery, 16 worked flints and 82 Roman pot sherds is recorded by HEP 022. The pottery finds may suggest that a focus of Roman activity was located to the northeast of the development site.

Anglo-Saxon to medieval

16 The *Historical Atlas of Suffolk* (West 1999, 45) proposes that the main focus of Anglo-Saxon activity was the River Black Bourn to the west. The site distribution

map for the Anglo-Saxon period appears to suggest that remains of this period are few on the high clay plateau, away from the river valleys. The historic environment record search indicated that as well as individual objects, archaeological features have been found in the vicinity of the current site.

- 17 An excavation in the modern centre of Hepworth (HEP 025) discovered evidence of a Late Saxon building comprising 16 post-holes laid out in the form of two structures: a main building, and a small lean-to type of structure attached to the west end. Thetford ware and St Neots ware pottery was collected from several of the post-holes, and a layer of soil above the structures indicated that it had gone out of existence as a 'house site' before the 13th century.
- 18 Similarly, at Church Farm, in the core of the village, HEP 027 records an archaeological evaluation. Here, amongst post-medieval remains, a Late Saxon copper-alloy finger ring was found by metal detector on a spoil heap. It was suggested that later, during the medieval period, and despite being close to the church, the site was in agricultural use on the periphery of the settlement.
- **19** Adjacent to The Street, *c*. 100m north from the current site, HEP 016 records the find of a 9th-century bronze disc brooch. The brooch is similar to one found in lxworth, is possibly cast from the same mould, and features a beast looking backwards.
- 20 Examination of the Domesday Book (1086) has indicated that at the time of the Norman Conquest Hepworth was still a free village type of community without any manorial organisation. Following the conquest, the Domesday Book indicates that the settlement was divided into two fiefs, held respectively by the Monks of Bury St Edmund and by Robert Blund (Corbett and Methold 1898, 19–20).
- 21 Record HEP 031 is an overall entry for the historical medieval settlement core of Hepworth, and although it encompasses the area of the development site, the record currently contains little other information.
- 22 Approximately 200m north of the current site, adjacent to The Street, fieldwalking in 1986 produced a collection of pottery including early medieval bases and sherds of 13th- and 14th-century date, along with some post-medieval pottery (HEP 013). A second scatter of finds of similar date, which included a bone awl, was found and recorded a little further north as HEP 012.
- 23 A well of probable medieval origin and a large, undated possible pit were found in footings excavated towards the centre of the village, *c*. 200m north of the development site (HEP 026).
- 24 Fieldwalking in 2000 located a multi-period pottery scatter (HEP 022) that included several Early Saxon pottery sherds, seven Middle Saxon Ipswich ware sherds, eight Thetford ware sherds, and forty-five medieval pieces amongst many post-medieval ceramics.

Post-medieval to modern

25 The archaeological evaluation at Church Farm (HEP 027), noted above, found a linear boundary corresponding to the post-medieval field edge shown on the First and Second Edition Ordnance Survey maps of 1883 and 1904. Little else of relevance for this period has been found within the search area, and no post-medieval buildings are recorded.

Previous archaeological investigations

- 26 An archaeological evaluation of the development site was undertaken by Archaeoserv in January 2013 (Payne 2014). Two linear trenches and one T-shaped trench were excavated. The trench descriptions and illustrations in the evaluation report are limited, but a small number of ditches, pits and post-holes were recorded.
- Of relevance to the excavation, one ditch on an approximate east-west alignment towards the south of the site was dated by a single sherd of probable Thetford-type ware to the 10th-11th centuries. A pit recorded as cutting the ditch, although possibly simply a part of the ditch, was dated by another probable Thetford-type ware sherd and a single piece of St Neot's-type ware to the 10th-11th centuries. An adjacent gully was undated, but was described as "probably of similar date" (Payne 2014, 3). The two features were considered to be land boundaries demonstrating property allotment in the Late Saxon period.
- 28 To the north, a second ditch was dated by an assemblage of pottery including glazed wares dated to the 13th–14th centuries. This feature, too, was interpreted as a property boundary, representing continued occupation and division of the site into the medieval period. A puzzling collection of small features close to the ditch is not discussed by the evaluation report, but it appears to contain ceramics of the same broad period as those in the north ditch. Other, undated features, were also recorded at the site.
- **29** The dating evidence provided by the report of the evaluation is represented in the phase plan of the excavation in Figure 2, and notes referencing the results of the evaluation are included in *Results*, *Discussion*, and *Conclusions* where appropriate.

METHODOLOGY

- **30** The objective of the excavation 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 in the development area.
- **31** The Brief (SCCAS(RM)_0646/Monk 2014) required that a specified part of the overall footprint of the development be fully excavated (see *Introduction*), as mitigation to preserve the archaeological features by record. Parts of the development outside this specified area were considered to lack archaeological remains or would be unaffected by the nature of the development (Monk 2014, 3, section 4.1).
- 32 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision by a 13-tonne tracked hydraulic 360° excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket. The excavator and the driver were supplied by the developer.
- **33** 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.
- Soil samples for environmental study were taken from four deposits: <1> [45], <2> [21], <3> [31], <4> [54].
- 35 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using NPS Archaeology pro forma. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales. Monochrome and digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits where appropriate.
- **36** The temporary benchmark used during the course of this work was transferred from a known Ordnance Survey height with a value of 45.29m OD, located on the road at the entrance to the site.
- 37 Site conditions were good, and the work took place in fine weather.

RESULTS

Figures 2, 3, 4

38 An assemblage of archaeological features identified in the excavated portion of the new development is discussed from south to north. The results of the previous evaluation (Payne 2014), where relevant, are also discussed in the following section. A phased plan of the excavated features is shown as Figure 2 and drawings of the excavated sections are shown as Figures 3 and 4.



Plate 1. The site, looking northwest



Plate 2. The site, looking southeast



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Figure 2. Plan of excavation. Scale 1:150





- 39 A short segment of crudely constructed brick wall, structure [1], was orientated east to west at a right angle to the modern road at the south end of the excavation. The wall was cleaned and recorded over a length of 1.60m, but it appeared to run for 6.70m in total, beyond the western limits of the trench. It was 0.26m wide, one course thick and constructed from two lines of predominantly part-broken (pre-used) handmade bricks. Where complete bricks were recovered, they measured *c*. 224 x 104 x 62mm. A thin skim of lime mortar covered both courses. There was a southern return to the wall, which contained a small amount of large flint nodules, generally 250mm across, and covered with a loose creamy mortar, which appeared to be residual bonding material that indicated they had been used previously in another structure.
- 40 Wall [1] was contained by construction cut [2]. This cut ran for the same length as the wall and was 0.30m deep with a flat base and vertical sides. The fill of wall cut [3] was firm yellowish brown clay, which contained no major inclusions and was interpreted as a firm packing to retain the brick structure [1] in position.
- 41 A layer of disturbed ground [4] recorded on the south side of the wall was truncated by the wall cut [2]. The deposit consisted of very pale brown firm silty clay interpreted as a deliberately deposited levelling layer. A similar firm layer [5] of very pale brown clay was recorded on the north side of the wall, and was probably essentially the same layer of deposited levelling as [4]. Together, these deposits were fundamentally the same as the general levelling deposits observed on the site and recorded as [69].
- 42 The wall structure [1], along with cut [2], fill [3] and the two layers [4] and [5], were the latest events in the archaeological sequence. Once recorded, due to their relatively recent date, they were removed by the tracked excavator so that the natural substratum could be observed. This was undertaken following discussion and agreement with the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Officer responsible for the project.



Plate 3. Brick structure [1], looking south

A ditch [12]=[20] orientated east to west was recorded at the south end of the site. It was 1.30m wide for the majority of its length, although close to the point where it extended beyond the east edge of the excavation it was 1.68m wide. The base in slot [20] was concave, and it had a steeper slope on its north side. The ditch was slightly more irregular at the east end, and shallower, measuring 0.38m deep. The fill [13] was dark reddish brown silty clay with moderate amounts of small stones and pebbles, and it contained occasional charcoal, chalk, and pieces of red clay. Animal bone and pottery recovered from the ditch fill indicated that the ditch was deliberately in-filled. The animal bone comprised cattle (28g) and small mammal bones. Pottery (6/43g) recovered from this ditch fill was broadly of 11th–13thcentury date though a single sherd of Roman pottery (8g) was also recovered from this fill.



Plate 4. Ditch [12], looking west

- 44 Slot [20] was excavated through the ditch at its west end, and here there was evidence that the ditch had been re-cut [22]. The ditch was deeper at this point, measuring 0.68m deep, and narrower. The fill [23] of ditch [20] was yellowish to mid grey silty clay, which contained occasional chalk flecks and small flints. Pottery (9/81g) recovered from this fill dated predominately to the 11th–14th centuries. A single sherd (5g) of Ipswich Ware was also came from this context. A sheep/goat tooth was also recovered from fill [23].
- Fill [21] of re-cut [22] was mid to light grey silty clay with occasional chalk flecks and occasional medium-sized stones. Each of the fills was considered to be deliberate deposition into the ditch, and re-cut. Interestingly, the fill on the west side of the feature did not have the reddish hue that characterised the fill on the east side. An environmental sample <2> was taken from fill [21], which indicated that debris from a hearth was present, material that had probably been blown into the open feature. Pottery (20/183g) recovered from [21] included a single sherd of Roman date (9g) and a single sherd of Ipswich Ware pottery (2g). The majority of the assemblage however was of medieval date, corresponding to the 11th–14th

centuries. A post-medieval iron nail was also collected from fill [21] along with 68g of equid bones and other smaller, unidentified mammal bones.



Plate 5. Ditch [20] and re-cut [22], looking north

- 46 The ditch was truncated by a large pit [18] on its south side. The pit extended partly beyond the western limit of excavation, and was a squared oval shape in plan. It measured 1.20m from north to south and at least 2.20m from east to west. The sides were concave and the base sloped down to the north. The fill [19] consisted of mid grey silty clay, which contained medium-sized flints. The pit appeared be situated within gravel which may have served as a drain adjacent to brick structure [1]. Pottery sherds (11/77g) recovered from this pit fill comprised mostly material of medieval date, with a single sherd (19g) of a large heavy sherd of 18th-century tankard thought to be intrusive. Equid bone weighing 21g and some smaller currently unidentified mammal bone was also recovered from fill [19].
- 47 A short section of gully [49]=[51] aligned from east to west was located to the north of ditch [12]=[20] and terminated towards the centre of the site. It measured at least 5.16m long and 0.42m wide. The gully was 0.28m deep at its deepest point, close to where it extended beyond the western limit of the excavation, and 0.21m deep where it terminated. It had steep and regular sides and a concave base. Two slots [49], [51] were excavated through the feature. The fill [50]=[52] was identical in each slot, recorded as firm mid to light grey clayey silt, which was probably the result of intentional in-filling. Fill [50] contained two pottery sherds (2g) of Roman date as well as sherds of Thetford ware (2/6g). The fill also contained 8g of sheep/goat bone and some unidentified mammal bone. Fill [52] contained pottery (2/10g) of 10th–12th-century date.



Plate 6. Gully [49], looking east

- 48 An oval pit measuring 1.92m x 0.84m was situated a short distance north of ditch [12]=[20] on the east side of the building footprint. A plan of the feature was drawn, but because of its obviously modern date—it contained plastic and other recent remains—the feature was neither excavated nor recorded further.
- 49 Large pit [35] was situated less than 1.00m north from the west end of gully [49]=[51]. It had an irregular, though generally oval shape in plan, and partly extended beyond the western edge of the site. The feature measured 2.11m from north to south and was at least 1.73m across from east to west. It was 0.53m deep, the sides were steep and uneven, and the base was roughly flat. The pit contained three fills [46], [45], [36], which all appeared to be deliberately deposited. The primary fill [46] was mid to dark brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks. It extended across the base of the pit and was 0.18m thick at its deepest point. A secondary fill [45] was mid to light orangey grey silty clay with small stones and charcoal flecks. This was 0.45m deep at its deepest point and contained pottery (2/17g) of 11th–13th-century date. A tertiary fill [36] was situated in the northeast corner of the feature, and consisted of mid to light grevish brown clayey silt with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks. It was 0.35m thick. One sherd (5g) of potter of Roman date was retrieved from fill [36] along with 62g of sheep/goat bones and some unidentified mammal bones. A soil sample <1> for environmental analysis was taken from fill [45], and its study identified the inclusion of waste material from a hearth, which had probably been dispersed by wind into the pit.



Plate 7. Pit [35], looking north

- 50 Another ditch [26]=[55]=[28] was situated 3.60m further north from pit [35] and three slots were excavated through this. The ditch extended for at least 11.15m on a roughly east to west orientation, terminated at its east end and extended beyond the western limit of the excavated area. Although its width varied somewhat over most of its length, on average it measured 1.00m wide. At the east end, the final 2.89m was more like a gully in size, and the feature measured only 0.36m wide. In general, where the feature could be considered a ditch, it had a v-shaped profile, whereas where it was more like a gully, it had a concave base and sides. The ditch was 0.27m deep for much of its length, which reduced to 0.15m where it was more gully-like. The fill [27]=[29]=[56] was typically dark yellowish brown silty clay, but where it was recorded as [27] it was mid to dark brown sandy clay with a moderate amount of charcoal, chalk flecks, and small stones.
- 51 The fill material was accompanied by pottery sherds and was almost certainly the result of deliberate in-filling. Six sherds pottery (16g) dated to the Roman period were found in fill [27]. No animal bone was recovered. One sherd of pottery (3g), dated to the 11th–12th centuries, was recovered from fill [29], as well as 95g of unidentified mammal bone. One fragment of post-medieval CBM (12g) was also recovered from this fill. A single Thetford Ware pottery sherd (1g) of 10th–11th-century date was recovered from fill [56]. A sherd of Thetford-type ware was also recovered from investigation of the same ditch in Evaluation Trench 2, which helps support the phasing of the feature to the Late Saxon period. Ditch [26]=[55]=[28] was truncated by gully [63]=[24].



Plate 8. Ditch [26], looking west



Plate 9. Ditch [28], looking east

Gully [24]=[63] was orientated from east to west and truncated the earlier ditch 52 [26]=[55]=[28]. It was observed in three excavated slots, although the gully cut was only allocated two context numbers. The feature extended beyond the east and west limits of the site and was measured within the excavation at 15.00m long. It was fairly consistently 0.24m wide. The feature was shallow, measuring 0.08m deep at its east end and 0.01m deep at its west end. It had a roughly flat base and steep sides at its east end, but was almost imperceptible at its west end. At the east end, the fill [25] was recorded as mid to dark brown silty clay with moderate amounts of chalk and charcoal flecks, and at the west end the fill [64] was mid to light grey clayey silt with occasional chalk fragments. No finds were recovered. The feature was probably deliberately in-filled. The gully was also observed in Evaluation Trench 2; it produced no finds, but was considered by the excavator to be contemporary with the ditch recorded as [26]=[55]=[28] (which it cut) (Payne 2014). The current work also failed to establish a date for gully [24]=[63], but it is considered that this was a later feature, perhaps a land drain.



Plate 10. Gully [24], looking east

53 A small post-hole [14] was located a short way to the north. It had shallow sides and a pointed base and was 0.25m deep. The fill [15] was mid brown silty sand that contained one sherd (3g) of pottery dated to the 11th–13th centuries.

- A further ditch [30]=[33] was located a little way to the north. It was 5.88m long, 54 terminated at its east end, and extended beyond the western limit of excavation. At its widest extent the ditch was 0.94m across. It was 0.48m deep at the west end, and only 0.25m deep at its terminus. At its west end, the sides of the ditch were steep and regular on the south side and slightly stepped on the north side. The base here was roughly flat. At the east end of the ditch, the sides and base were concave. The fill [34] at the east end of the feature was dark grey clayey silt with frequent small lumps of chalk and occasional charcoal flecks. Pottery (3/37g) recovered from fill [34] dated to the late 11th-14th centuries. At the west end of the feature, fill [31] was identical except for the presence of more charcoal and less chalk. A sample <3> of fill [31] identified the possibly deliberate deposition of hearth waste into the ditch. Pottery (14/119g) recovered from fill [31] dated to the 11th–14th centuries. Animal bone found in the fill comprised 86g of sheep/goat along with an upper jaw and isolated molar of a pig/boar and other unidentified mammal bones. The four oyster shells recovered from [31] were examined as part of the post-excavation process and discarded.
- 55 The east end of ditch [30]=[33] was located within the area of Evaluation Trench 2, though at that stage it was not observed. A 0.10m-deep feature described by the evaluation as a post-hole was excavated immediately adjacent to ditch [30]=[33] (Payne 2014). The post-hole did not produce any finds and it seems plausible that the deposit excavated was, in fact, an element of the edge of the ditch. During the excavation, 13th–14th-century ceramics were recovered from the ditch.
- 56 An irregular feature [66] was located at the east end of ditch [30]=[33]. It was excavated and recorded, although it is possible that the feature contained redeposited material and was caused by disturbance from the evaluation work. However, because of some doubt in this, it was treated in an archaeological manner during the excavation. The feature measured 0.74m wide from east to west, 0.93m long from north to south, and was 0.13m deep. The sides were irregular and shallow and the base was concave. The fill [67] was light brown clayey silt, which was looser than many of the other feature fills recorded on the site, perhaps indicating its recent deposition. No finds were recovered.
- 57 A small pit [53] was located 1.00m to the north of the west end of ditch [30]=[33]. It had an oval shape and measured 0.90m long x 0.49m wide x 0.27m deep. It had steep and regular sides, and a concave base. The fill [54] was mid to light orangey brown sandy silt with occasional flecks of charcoal, and was interpreted as an intentional deposit of material. Pottery dated to the 12th–14th century was found in the fill. An environmental sample <4> of fill [54] was taken. Its study suggested that the fill contained spent plant fuel, animal dung and somewhat unusually henbane. Pottery (2/12G) of 12th–14th–century date was recovered from [54]. Sheep/goat bone weighing 9g was also collected.



Plate 11. Ditch [30], looking west



Plate 12. Pit [53], looking south

- 58 A further small, oval pit was excavated a short distance to the northeast of irregular feature [66]. It measured 0.56m long x 0.48m wide x 0.30m deep. Modern inclusions were identified in the fill, so the feature was planned but not recorded in any further detail.
- **59** There were four possible post-holes or post-pits [6], [8], [10], [16] situated in an approximate east to west line *c*. 4.00m north of irregular feature [66]. The post-holes may represent a structure, fence line or part of the outline of a small paddock. All of the fills were probably introduced into the features following the removal of any original post. It is interesting to note that these small features were located close to other small pits and possible post-holes towards the centre of the excavated area.
- **60** The north-most post-hole [6] measured 0.67m x 0.41m x 0.08m deep. Its sides were concave and its base was roughly flat. Its fill [7] was dark brown, and consisted almost purely of clay.
- 61 A second feature [8] was situated a short distance to the southwest of [6]. It was 0.08m deep and measured 0.41m x 0.50m in plan. The sides and base of the feature were concave. Its fill [9] was dark brown, and consisted almost purely of clay.



Plate 13. Post-hole [6], looking north

- 62 A larger post-pit [10] was situated close to post-hole [8] on its west side. It measured 0.99m long x 0.56m wide x 0.06m deep. The sides and base of the feature were concave. Its fill [11] consisted of dark yellowish brown clay, which contained sherds of 11th–12th-century pottery. Pottery (2/6g) 11th–12th-century date was recovered from this fill. No CBM or animal bone were recovered.
- **63** The post-hole [16] at the west end of the line measured 0.54m long x 0.20m wide x 0.06m deep. Its sides and base were concave, and its fill [17] was dark brown clay. No finds were recovered.

- Gully [57]=[41]=[37] was located c. 4.00m to the north of the line of post-holes. It 64 was orientated from northwest to southeast, terminated at its southeast end, and extended beyond the west limit of the excavation. The gully was recorded over a distance of 11.82m, and on average measured 0.54m wide. Three slots were excavated through it and its depth was recorded between 0.07-0.12m. The westmost profile was slightly v-shaped, whereas at the east end the sides and base were concave. The fill [58]=[42]=[38] was generally mid to dark brown silty sand with occasional small stones, charcoal and chalk inclusions and was probably the result of deliberate infilling. The gully was situated in the area of Evaluation Trench 3, and although it was not observed during that phase of works, five small related post-holes—some containing 12th–14th-century ceramics—that were recorded were not subsequently observed during the excavation. It is possible that two of the post-holes were actually elements of gully [57]=[41]=[37]. One sherd of Roman pottery (1g) was recovered from fill [42]. Fill [58] contained one pottery sherd (1g) dated to the late 12th–14th centuries and two sherds (4g) of unidentified early medieval or possibly Early Saxon pottery.
- 65 Gully [57]=[41]=[37] was cut at its southeast end by several small pits [43] [39], [47]. Pit [43] cut gully segment [41] and was roughly circular, measuring 0.40m x 0.44m x 0.04m deep. Its sides were fairly regular and concave and its base sloped down slightly towards the north. Pit fill [44] was composed of mid to dark brown sandy silt with chalk and charcoal. No finds were recovered.
- 66 The second small pit, or perhaps a post-hole [39], was situated further to the east and cut gully segment [37]. It had a roughly oval shape in plan and measured 0.54m long x 0.44m wide x 0.07m deep. Its sides were steep and regular and its base was flat. Its only fill [40] was composed of mid to dark brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and chalk inclusions, which was probably the result of deliberate infilling. No finds were recovered.
- 67 The third small pit or possible post-hole [47] cut the east end of gully [37]. It was oval in plan and was 0.07m deep. The sides of the pit were steep but concave, and the base was slightly concave. Its fill [48] consisted of mid brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks and stones. No finds were recovered.
- A short segment of ditch [59]=[61] was situated in the northeast corner of the 68 excavation. It was aligned slightly off east to west and was 5.85m long. The ditch extended beyond the east limit of the site and appeared to peter out to the west. However, the feature was recorded previously in Evaluation Trench 3, which confirmed that originally it extended further to the west. The ditch was narrower and shallower (0.10m deep) towards the west, whereas halfway along it was 0.29m deep. Its width varied from 0.50m at the west end to 0.67m at the east end, and the sides and base of the ditch were concave. The fill [60]=[62] was composed of mid to light grey clayey silt, which due to the lack of significant inclusions may be interpreted to have accumulated through natural processes. Oyster shells found in the fill were examined post-excavation and subsequently discarded. Fill [60] contained a pig/boar tooth, one sherd (1g) of Roman pottery, and three sherds (8g) of Thetford Ware pottery dated to the 10th–11th centuries. Fill [62] contained pottery (19/114g) dated to the 12th–14th centuries, a date range which coincides with that of the 13th–14th-century ceramic assemblage recovered from the ditch in Evaluation Trench 3 (Payne 2014). The evaluation also recorded a pit or pits 2.00m to the south containing 12th–14th-century pottery.



Plate 14. Gully [37], looking southwest



Plate 15. Ditch [59]=[61], looking northeast

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

69 Finds were processed and recorded by count and weight, and information entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. Each material type was considered separately and is presented below organised by material. A list of finds in context number order can be found in Appendix 2a.

Pottery

by Sue Anderson

Introduction

70 One hundred and seventeen sherds of pottery weighing 851g were collected from 23 contexts (Appendix 3). Table 1 shows quantities of pottery by fabric.

Description	Fabric	Code	No	Wt (g)	Eve	MNV
Roman greyware	RBGW	1.10	2	2		2
Roman grey micaceous (Wattisfield)	RBGM	1.20	12	41	0.05	12
Total Roman			14	43	0.05	14
Gritty Ipswich Ware?	GIPS?	2.31	2	7		2
Total Middle Saxon?			2	7		2
Thetford-type ware	THET	2.50	14	56		14
Thetford-type ware (Grimston)	THETG	2.57	1	7		1
St Neots Ware	STNE	2.70	1	1		1
Total Late Saxon			16	64		16
Early medieval ware	EMW	3.10	17	77		16
Early medieval ware gritty	EMWG	3.11	4	53		4
Early medieval sparse shelly ware	EMWSS	3.19	9	52		9
Early medieval gritty with shell	EMWSG	3.191	1	11		1
Total early medieval			31	193		30
Medieval coarseware	MCW	3.20	10	144	0.16	9
Medieval coarseware gritty	MCWG	3.21	3	83	0.13	3
Grimston coarseware	GRCW	3.22	1	18		1
Medieval coarseware micaceous	MCWM	3.24	4	48	0.08	4
Bury sandy fine ware	BSFW	3.31	1	14	0.08	1
Bury medieval coarseware	BMCW	3.33	4	15		2
Bury medieval coarseware gritty	BMCWG	3.34	1	2		1
Waveney Valley coarsewares	WVCW	3.41	17	87		5
Hollesley-type coarseware	HOLL	3.42	5	42	0.17	5
Ely coarseware	ELCW	3.61	1	8		1
Unprovenanced glazed	UPG	4.00	1	18		1
Grimston-type ware	GRIM	4.10	3	42		2
Total medieval			51	521	0.62	35
Creamwares	CRW	8.10	1	19		1
Total modern			1	19		1
Unidentified	UNID	0.001	2	4		1
Totals			117	851	0.67	99

Table 1. Pottery quantification by fabric.

Methodology

71 Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalent (eve). The minimum number of vessels (MNV) in each context was also recorded, but cross-fitting was not attempted unless particularly distinctive vessels were observed in more than one context. A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is available in the site archive. All fabric codes were assigned from the author's post-Roman fabric series, which includes East Anglian and Midlands fabrics, as well as imported wares. Form terminology for medieval pottery is based on 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 a Microsoft Access database.

The assemblage

Roman

72 A few sherds of Roman greywares, the majority in the highly micaceous Wattisfield fabric, were recovered. Most are abraded and there is only one rim sherd, a fragment of a small bowl or dish with an upright rounded rim. One body sherd has shallow combed decoration. The pieces were recovered from eight contexts, generally as residual finds with later material, although they were the only pottery finds from ditch [26], pit [35] and gully [41].

Middle and Late Saxon

- **73** Two body sherds in gritty hard-fired fabrics may be pieces of Ipswich Ware, although both are relatively thin for this pottery type and could be gritty medieval wares. Both were found in association with medieval and earlier pottery in ditches [20] and [22].
- 74 Thetford-type wares were recovered from seven contexts. All sherds are body fragments in grey or black medium sandy fabrics. Two are decorated with rouletted bands. Most were residual in their contexts, but three came from features with no later pottery.

Early to high medieval

- **75** A high proportion of the assemblage comprises handmade early medieval pottery of later 11th–13th-century date. These are in a range of fine, medium and coarse sandy fabrics, some of which contain sparse shell inclusions. All sherds are undiagnostic body fragments, but are probably from jars or bowls.
- 76 In the high medieval phase, fine and medium sandy coarsewares dominate, with a few micaceous or gritty sherds also present. Waveney Valley coarsewares are the most frequent. This coarseware fabric contains abundant very fine to fine sand grains with sparse to moderate mica and occasional other inclusions such as flint or ferrous particles, and is usually dark grey with a paler grey core, although often the surface has been lost through wear or abrasion. It was first identified at the late medieval and transitional (LMT) kiln site in Rickinghall and is likely to represent pre-LMT production in the high medieval period, although no kilns have yet been found. A broadly similar fabric is found across much of the east half of Norfolk and Suffolk, and was probably produced by a number of potteries. The kiln site at Hollesley is the only one to have been excavated to date, but similar wares were probably being made in the Waveney Valley, around Stowmarket and in north

Norfolk. Vessel forms in Norfolk are typical of the county, whereas those from the Waveney Valley and Stowmarket are broadly similar to the Hollesley type series (West unpublished).

- 77 A few sherds of other known types are present, including some Bury St Edmunds types (the production centres of these are currently unknown, but they occur most frequently in Bury and rarely on rural sites), some Hollesley wares and, from further afield, one sherd each of Grimston and Ely-type coarsewares. Other coarsewares in the group were probably locally produced, but the fabrics are slightly different to the finer Waveney Valley types.
- 78 Identifiable forms are present in five fabrics (MCW, MCWG, MCWM, HOLL, BSFW), and comprise five jars, four bowls and a ?jug. The rim forms are all developed types typical of Suffolk in the 13th and 14th centuries, and comprise flat-topped and tapered everted types, and squared beaded types. The ?jug fragment is part of the neck of the vessel, and is decorated with combed diagonal lines.
- **79** Glazed wares make up 7.8% of the group by count. This is a typically low proportion for a rural site. The main glazed wares are Grimston types, although the three sherds only represent two vessels. One large body sherd is probably part of a face jug with brown slip line decoration and part of an incised 'hand'. A glazed sherd in a medium sandy micaceous orange fabric is unprovenanced. It is part of the neck of the vessel and is decorated with incised horizontal lines, a reddish slip vertical line and yellow glaze. The outward appearance is very similar to Hedingham ware, but the fabric is coarser than the normal version of this ware.

Modern

80 A base sherd of a late 18th- or 19th-century creamware tankard was recovered from drain [18].

Pottery by context

81 Table 2 shows the distribution of pottery fabrics by feature and provides spot dates. Unstratified material is not included.

Fill Of	Context	Cut Type	Fabrics	Spotdate
10	11	Pit	EMW EMWG	11th-13th c.
12	13	Ditch	RBGM THET STNE MCWG ELCW	12th-13th c?
14	15	Post- hole	EMWSS	11th-13th c.*
18	19	Drain	THET THETG EMW EMWSS CRW	L.18th-19th c.
20	21	Ditch	RBGM GIPS THET EMW EMWG EMWSS MCW MCWM GRIM UPG	L.12th-14th c.
22	23	Ditch	RBGM GIPS EMW EMWSS MCW MCWM HOLL GRIM	L.12th-14th c.
26	27	Ditch	RBGM RBGW	Roman?
28	29	Ditch	EMW	11th-13th c.*
30	31	Ditch	EMW EMWG BMCW BMCWG BSFW MCW	13th c.
33	34	Ditch	MCWG WVCW	13th(-14th) c.
35	36	Pit	RBGM	Roman+
35	45	Pit	EMW EMWSG	11th-13th c.

Fill Of	Context	Cut Type	Fabrics	Spotdate
41	42	Gully	RBGM	Roman?
49	50	Gully	RBGM RBGW	Roman?
49	50	Gully	THET	10th-11th c.
51	52	Gully	THET EMW	11th c.
53	54	Pit	MCW MCWM	L.12th-14th c.
55	56	Ditch	THET	10th-11th c.*
57	58	Gully	UNID BMCW	L.12th-14th c.
59	60	Gully	RBGM THET(?)	10th-11th c.
61	62	Gully	WVCW HOLL GRIM	13th-14th c.

Table 2. Pottery by context and feature (* contains later CBM)

82 A few features contained only Roman pottery, but the small quantity and condition of the sherds suggests that all pottery of this date is residual. Some features may be Late Saxon, but again the quantities of pottery from these make the dating unreliable, and some were found in association with later ceramic building material. Most of the features containing pottery probably date to the early and high medieval periods, with fabrics and forms indicating a continuation of activity throughout these centuries.

Pottery discussion

- 83 The earliest pottery from the site is of Roman date. Most sherds are in the very micaceous greyware fabric associated with the nearby Wattisfield kilns. Given the degree of abrasion and small size of the sherds, it is likely that all the Roman pottery is residual, even where it occurred as the only find. Middle Saxon activity is represented by two sherds of possible Ipswich Ware.
- 84 Early medieval wares are fairly common in the assemblage. All fragments are body sherds but are large enough to show that the bodies of the vessels are handmade. The fabrics include some which continued into the 13th century in rural parts of East Anglia, so some or all of the sherds may be contemporary with the high medieval group.
- 85 The high medieval pottery includes a relatively high proportion of pottery from the northeast of the county and from around Bury, supplemented by a few pieces from Norfolk and Cambridgeshire. The range of forms suggests bowls were equally as common as jars, but few jugs were identified. A high proportion of bowls can be indicative of dairying, although the group is too small to be certain of this interpretation. The Grimston face jug was probably a special item of tableware, but there is no particular evidence for high status in the group.
- 86 A few large assemblages have been excavated at other rural sites within a 15km radius of Hepworth. At Walsham-le-Willows, two assemblages produced coarsewares from the Waveney Valley and glazed wares from Essex (Anderson 2010a, 2014a). At Coney Weston, a large group of early and high medieval wares includes a high proportion of Waveney Valley wares along with some Bury and Hollesley wares, and sparse shelly and sandy early medieval wares (Anderson 2014b) A similar range of wares is present at Cherry Tree Farm, Wortham, where Waveney Valley coarsewares predominate (Anderson 2010b). Further to the south, large assemblages from Cedars Field Moat and Cedars Park, Stowmarket,

produced a similar range of forms, but in fabrics that may be locally produced, rather than being from Hollesley or the Waveney Valley (Anderson 2004; forthcoming). Some of the fabrics from Hepworth are different to those recovered from the sites mentioned above, and it is possible that some of the wares containing medium sand, sparse coarse quartz and sparse to common mica are very local products.

Ceramic Building Material

by Sue Anderson

- 87 Fourteen fragments of ceramic building material (hereafter CBM) weighing 1261g were collected from six contexts (Appendix 4). There were also two small fragments (7g) of fired clay (summarised in Appendix 5).
- 88 The CBM was quantified by context, fabric and type, using fragment count and weight in grams. Fabrics are based on coarseness of sand within the matrix and major inclusions, but for smaller fragments this may mean classification simply on the basis of the sand content. Post-medieval forms are based on Drury (1993). Data was input into a Microsoft Access database, and a full catalogue forms part of the archive.

89	Table conte	3 show xt is inclu	s the quantification ided as Appendix 4.	by fabric	and	form;	a sumr	nary c	atalog	ue by
		Fabric	Description			RBT?	LB	RTP	UN	
		fs	Fine sandy					4	1	

Fabric	Description	RBT?	LB	RTP	UN
fs	Fine sandy			4	1
fscp	Fine sandy with clay pellets	1			
ms	Medium sandy		4	1	
msf	Medium sandy with flint			1	
msfe	Medium sandy with ferrous inclusions			1	
msg	Medium sandy with grog		1		
	Total count	1	5	7	1
	Total weight (g)	4	5452	162	3

Table 3. CBM fabric descriptions and quantities (fragment count)

- **90** One small, abraded fragment in a soft fabric with clay pellets is identified as possible Roman tile (RBT). It only has a small area of original surface so the identification is uncertain. The fabric is a common type at this period, however, and the fragment was found in a probable medieval context (ditch fill [31]). Two small fragments of fired clay also came from fill [31], in a medium sandy chalk-tempered fabric, a type typically used for making oven domes in the medieval period.
- **91** Two complete late bricks (LB) were recovered as samples from brick wall [1]. They measure *c*. 224 x 104 x 62mm and are handmade. A thin skim of lime mortar covers both bricks, but the headers are clear. The fabric is uncertain as the bricks are intact, but they are probably medium sandy and no inclusions can be seen in the surfaces. The other fragments of late brick, recovered from post-hole fill [15] and drain fill [19], are small and abraded.
- **92** Small pieces of plain roof tile fragments (RTP) were recovered from drain fill [19] and ditch fill [29]. They are in a variety of fabrics, although fine sandy examples

are most frequent. All of the fragments are of post-medieval date. A small piece of tile from ditch fill [56], also in 'fs' fabric (UN), could be another fragment of roof tile or possibly a piece of brick.

Metal Finds

by Louise Weetman

Introduction

93 Fourteen metal objects and fragments were recovered from the excavations at Hepworth. Six pieces were of iron, three of lead, four of copper alloy and one of Britannia metal. As these objects were unstratified finds it is difficult to date them closely.

Iron

- **94** Four of the six iron objects were nails (21) and (65), which cannot be dated closely, being a ubiquitous item over multiple periods. It is possible, however, that the nails are of medieval date, given that many of them were found in association with medieval pottery.
- **95** One horseshoe (72) was recovered from the site; it has its nailholes set in a fullered groove, which is a post-medieval feature. The arms of these later horseshoes generally have three nailholes when complete, with a few having four (Margeson 1993, 225 fig. 174).
- 96 A post-medieval heel iron was found (65), a fitting that would have been used on the heel of a wooden clog or shoe. The shape of the shoe and its rectangular nail holes resemble 'tongue' horseshoes dating from the 17th and 18th centuries (PAS: CORN-E73E27; <u>http://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/198043</u>)

Copper alloy

- **97** Four objects of copper alloy were recovered from the site. One object is a pierced rectangular strip, another is a post-medieval button cap with evidence of tin on the face (65).
- **98** One medieval sheet repair was found on the site (65). Sheet rivets, with their characteristic hexagonal outline, folded from cut lozenges, were used alone to fill small splits in sheet vessels (Egan 1998, 176 fig. 144).
- **99** A cast copper-alloy, single loop, trapezoidal buckle with ornate outer edges was recovered (71). It measures 242mm long and 331mm wide. There is evidence of it once having had a pin, although this has been lost. It has a narrowed strap bar, and the three lobed knops decoration on the leading corners of the frame date it to *c*. 1250–1400 (Whitehead 1996, 30 fig. 166).

Lead

- **100** Two waste fragments of lead were found, both were unstratified finds which makes it difficult to date these objects (65) and (71).
- 101 A thick lead disc can be identified as a post-medieval pocket sundial (65) (PAS: LIN-121025; <u>http://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/529478</u>). The object is circular with part of its edge missing. Two concentric circles decorate the disc with Roman numerals within them, while in the centre a decorative compass needle points to the numerals. The reverse is undecorated. The presence of both sundial

and compass could make it a diptych or tablet dial which were made in great numbers in the 16th and 17th centuries (Margeson 1993, 72).

Britannia Metal

102 One object of Britannia metal (65) was recovered from the site, a spoon handle. On its stem are the words 'Best Metal for Use – Ashberry's'. Ashberry's is one of the trademarks used by Philip Ashberry and Sons, who manufactured in Sheffield from 1829-1936. The company specialised in silver, nickel-silver, Britannia metal and electro-plated goods (Woodhead 1991, 10).

Metal finds conclusions

- **103** The metal assemblage from Hepworth is a small one and is medieval–postmedieval in character. Nails and horseshoes point toward agricultural practice in the area, as these may have come from a working horse.
- **104** The small amount of personal possessions around the site may have been distributed by casual losses and imply little other than human activity in the area.
- **105** As the objects were found in an unstratified context little more can be said about the assemblage. The metal finds from the site are fully recorded and require no further work.

Animal Bone

by Julie Curl

Methodology

- **106** The bone in the assemblage consists of hand-collected remains. All of the bone is identified to species wherever possible using a variety of comparative reference material. Where a complete identification to species is not possible, bone is assigned to a group, such as 'sheep/goat' or 'mammal' whenever possible. The bones are recorded using a modified version of guidelines described in Davis (1992).
- **107** Any butchering is recorded, noting the type of butchering, such as cut, chopped or sawn and location of butchering. Any burnt bone is noted. Pathologies are also recorded with the type of injury or disease, the element affected and the location on the bone. Other modifications are recorded, such as any possible industrial or craft working waste or animal gnawing.
- **108** Weights and total number of pieces counts are recorded for each context, along with the number of pieces for each individual species present (NISP) and these appear in Appendix 6. All of the information is input into an Excel catalogue. A summary table of the faunal catalogue is in a table in the appendix and the full catalogue is available in the digital archive.

The faunal assemblage

Quantification, provenance and preservation

109 A total of 497g of faunal remains, consisting of seventy-one pieces, was recovered from the excavations at Maltings Farm (Appendix 6). The remains were collected from fills of ditches, a drain, gullies, pits and unstratified contexts. Some bone was recovered alongside post-medieval–modern finds, but most of the remains in the assemblage are associated with ceramics of medieval date. Quantification of the

assemblage by feature type, feature number and context count can be seen in Table 4 and by weight (in grams) in Table 5.

Feature	F	Feature				
Number	Ditch	Drain	Gully	Pit	U/S	Total
12	6					6
18		3				3
20	9					9
22	2					2
28	14					14
30	16					16
35				13		13
49			2			2
53				1		1
55	3					3
61			1			1
U/S					1	1
Feature Type Total	50	3	3	14	1	71

Table 4. Quantification of the faunal assemblage by feature number, feature type and fragment count

110 The remains in the assemblage are in good, sound condition, although much of the assemblage is quite highly fragmented from butchering and pre-depositional breaking. Pit [35] fill [36] produced a bone that displays a little canid gnawing, suggesting that some remains were available for dog consumption or left uncovered for scavengers. Pit [53] fill [54] yielded a limb bone that shows variable amounts of low burning along the bone, probably as a result of cooking.

Feature	Fe	Feature				
Number	Ditch	Drain	Gully	Pit	U/S	Total
12	28					28
18		21				21
20	68					68
22	62					62
28	95					95
30	86					86
35				62		62
49			8			8
53				9		9
55	54					54
61			1			1
Feature	Fe	ature Ty	vpe and V	Veight (g)	Feature
-----------------------	-----	----------	-----------	-----------	---	---------
U/S					3	3
Feature Type Total	393	21	9	71	3	497

Table 5. Quantification of the faunal assemblage by feature number, feature type and weight in
grams

Species and modifications

111 At least five species are identifiable from the assemblage. The greatest frequency is of sheep/goats, which derived from six ditch, gully and pit fills. Equid bones were found in three fills, cattle and pig/boar were seen in just two fills. A single bone from a fowl was recovered from ditch [20] fill [21]. More than half of the assemblage has been so heavily fragmented, leaving no diagnostic zones, that it can only be identified as 'mammal'. Quantification of the species by NISP and feature type can be seen in Table 6.

Species						
	Ditch	Drain	Gully	Pit	U/S	Species Total
Bird - Fowl	1					1
Cattle	4					4
Equid	2	3				5
Mammal	34		1	6	1	42
Pig/boar	2		1			3
Sheep/goat	7		1	8		16
Feature Type Total	50	3	3	14	1	71

Table 6. Quantification of the faunal assemblage by species, feature type and NISP.

- 112 Much of the assemblage shows some form of butchering and preparation for food, with chops from dismemberment, cuts from removal of meat and breaking of bones for marrow extraction. Butchering can also be seen on an equid limb bone, suggesting this animal had also been used for meat. The elements present represent a variety of cuts of meat.
- 113 The age of the animals is mostly adult, but for one juvenile sheep/goat bone, and all pig/boar remains are from juveniles, the latter normally only kept for meat and hides and typically culled when young. The cattle include a mature, well-worn tooth, suggesting an aged animal, which may have been kept for traction and milking prior to its use for meat.
- 114 No estimation of stature can be made for any species as the bone is too heavily fragmented and the sample of bone too small for any meaningful analysis.

Animal bone conclusions

115 This is a small assemblage that appears to be derived from butchering and food waste. The remains are all likely to be from domestic stock, although given the earlier date of some residual finds, boar is a possibility. The remains and species are typical of many small assemblages of a later or mixed date range. Although

absent in terms of bones, the presence of canids is also shown from the gnawing of bone. The consumption of the equid is not unusual, evidence from a range of sites suggests these animals were sometimes skinned and eaten, perhaps by people in times of shortage of other meat, and for meat supplies to feed domestic and working dogs.

ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Plant Macrofossils

by Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

- Four samples for the retrieval of plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from the fills of plot boundary ditches of medieval date (Appendix 7). 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 7 Nomenclature within the appendix follows Stace (1997) for the plant remains and Kerney and Cameron (1979) and Macan (1977) for the mollusc shells. Identifications of the remains were made by comparison with modern reference specimens. All plant remains are charred. Modern fibrous roots are also present in all four assemblages.
- **117** The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts were retained for further specialist analysis.

Sample composition

- **118** Cereals, chaff and seeds of common weeds are present at varying densities in all four assemblages. Preservation is mostly poor to moderate, with many of the cereals being so puffed, distorted and fragmentary that close identification is not possible.
- 119 Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.), rye (*Secale cereale*) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains are recorded, most particularly in the assemblage from [54] (sample <4>). Cereal chaff is generally scarce, although bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) type rachis nodes with diagnostic crescentic glume inserts are present in three of the four assemblages. Other potential food crop remains include a rounded cotyledon of possible pea (*Pisum sativum*) type (sample <4>) and a larger, more angular legume of possible field bean (*Vicia faba*) type (sample <3> [31]).
- 120 Weed seeds are generally scarce, although the assemblage from sample <4> does include numerous specimens of henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*) along with a number of dock (*Rumex* sp.) fruits. Other taxa noted include brome (*Bromus* sp.), indeterminate small legumes (Fabaceae), goosegrass (*Galium aparine*), persicaria (*Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolia*) and wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*). Sample <2> [21] includes a fragment of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell and a hawthorn (*Crateagus* sp.) fruit stone, whilst sample <4> contains what appears to be the base of an oak (*Quercus* sp.) cupule (acorn cup). Charcoal/charred wood fragments are present throughout, and although other plant macrofossils occur less frequently, indeterminate stem fragments, buds, culm nodes, inflorescence fragments and prickles are recorded.
- 121 The fragments of black porous and tarry material, which are recorded in all four assemblages, are all thought to be residues of the combustion of organic remains (including cereal grains) at very high temperatures. Other remains include small pieces of bone (some of which are burnt/calcined), pellets of burnt or fired clay, a

fish bone, mineralised faecal concretions and small mammal/amphibian bones. Black spherules are noted within the assemblages from samples <2> and <4>, but it is thought most likely that these are natural mineral concretions.

122 Although specific sieving for molluscan remains was not undertaken, shells of common terrestrial, marsh and freshwater species are noted in three of the four assemblages studied. Most are of limited import, as the number recorded is low and the contemporaneity of the remains with the contexts from which the samples were taken is unclear. However, sample <4> does include a number of burnt specimens of marsh and freshwater species, which are of potential interest. It is thought most likely that these are derived from either the *in situ* burning of detritus within the ditch (thereby suggesting that the ditch may have been sufficiently water filled to sustain such a fauna), or from the burning of wetland plant materials, which had been imported to the site for use as litter or thatch.

Plant macrofossils discussion

- 123 The assemblages from samples <1> [45] and <2> [21] are small (i.e. <0.1 litres in volume) and relatively limited in composition. However, both do contain moderate to high densities of charcoal/charred wood along with cereals, seeds and a range of other remains, all of which could be derived from hearth waste and/or other domestic detritus. It is thought most likely that much of this material is derived from either scattered or wind-dispersed detritus that was accidentally incorporated within the ditch fills.
- 124 Although the assemblage from sample <3> is still small, its composition is markedly different. Charcoal/charred wood fragments are still abundant, but the detritus elements noted in samples <1> and <2> are largely absent and are replaced by a higher density of cereals and seeds of common segetal weeds. Although such material could indicate that small-scale agricultural activities were occurring in the near vicinity, it is thought more likely that the remains are derived from hearth or oven waste. Such material was frequently disposed of in features away from any focus of domestic or agricultural activity as a means of preventing accidental and catastrophic fires.
- Similar material may also be present in the assemblage from sample <4>, 125 although in this instance, it is recorded alongside detritus from a mixture of sources. Charred cereals are relatively common, and although the source of this material is again unclear, it is possible that some grains were accidentally charred during culinary preparation. In particular, oats and other cereals were often toasted to make groats, while barley was often used whole for human consumption, either for malting or in soups or stews (cf Murphy 1985). The abundance of charred root/stem, buds, culm nodes and inflorescence fragments may indicate that spent fuel from nearby ovens is again present, although some remains could also be derived from the burning of soiled flooring materials. However, the most striking feature of this assemblage is the abundance of henbane seeds. Henbane, which prefers very nutrient-rich conditions, is frequently found growing on or adjacent to manure heaps, and its presence within this assemblage, along with a small number of mineralised faecal residues, almost certainly indicates that the ditch also included animal dung and/or sewage. As henbane is not commonly recorded in charred assemblages, it is, perhaps, most likely that this ordure, and any other material associated within it, was burnt in situ inside the ditch, although whether this was accidental or deliberate is not known.

Plant macrofossils conclusions

126 In summary, as only four small and somewhat limited assemblages are available for study, it is impossible to state with any degree of certainty what may have been occurring in the near vicinity of the site during the medieval period. However, it does appear that the remains that are recorded are derived from multiple sources, which may suggest that the ditched plots were being used for a variety of purposes. Whilst some remains were probably accidentally incorporated within the ditch fills, others appear to have been deliberately placed, and it is even possible that some midden deposits were being burnt *in situ*. Why the latter occurred is unclear, but it may have proved an effective method of both sanitising the area and minimising the risk of rodent infestation.

DISCUSSION

- 127 The small amount of Roman-period pottery from the site is abraded and considered to be residual. Though present in very small quantities, its occurrence might highlight a degree of Roman activity in the vicinity of Hepworth village. The focus of that activity has yet to be found, although a large assemblage of pottery previously recorded as HEP 022 to the northeast of Hepworth might be located close to it.
- 128 The archaeological remains on the current site consist of ditches, gullies and some small pits/post-holes, consistent with the type of roadside development seen at other medieval settlements. That the features are generally parallel to each other and at a right angle to the road is a typical characteristic of such developments. Within this general picture, features at the site would appear to fall within a fairly narrow timeframe. A tentative pattern is suggested by the date ranges of the pottery assemblages, and whilst these are not precise enough to phase the site with confidence, they provide some evidence for three separate episodes of activity, with activity at the site seemingly peaking in 12th–14th centuries.
- 129 The earliest phase of activity on the site includes ditch [26]=[55]=[28], which appears to date from the 10th–12th century, based on the presence of two early medieval sherds. This feature contained six sherds of Roman pottery, but is thought unlikely to date to this period due to the abraded natures of these finds, not least because Thetford-type ware was recovered from the same feature by the 2013 evaluation work (Payne 2014). The lack of later medieval sherds (dated 12th–14th century), which were relatively numerous finds at the site, might be telling, perhaps indicating this ditch had fallen out of use before later phases of activity.
- **130** A gully [49]=[51] also dated to this earliest phase of activity, and its close proximity to ditch [26]=[55]=[28] may indicate these features, if broadly contemporary, might have been positioned either side of a path or route across the plot.
- 131 A post-hole/post-pit [10] at the centre of the site appeared to be one of the earlier features present (up to 12th century). Its proximity to post-holes [16], [8] and [6] may suggest that they are associated, though these latter features were undated. They do not appear to form a recognisable pattern with other post-holes found during the evaluation work. While they may simply represent a fence line, it is also possible they represent a structure of which only small traces had survived.
- **132** Pit [35] contained pottery of 11th–13th century date, and as such was attributed to a separate phase. It represents a reasonably large medieval pit of the type often found at the rear of properties, perhaps associated with some form of 'backyard' activity. Such pits can originate with one purpose, such as quarrying, and then become used for a secondary purpose, such as rubbish pits.
- 133 The majority of features revealed by the excavation belong to the latest phase of activity at the site. Ditch [59]=[61] is typical of these in that it contained some earlier, residual material, but also larger quantities of 12th–14th century pottery, a pattern repeated across the site. The archaeological evaluation of the site in 2013 produced similarly significant numbers of pottery finds from the same, these dated to the 13th–14th centuries and confirming the later medieval phase ascribed to the feature. The ditch appears to have filled up through natural processes, rather than

being deliberately in-filled. Elsewhere, features fills tended to contain charcoal, chalk and more ceramics. In some cases, environmental samples suggest that they contain hearth waste. A pit or pits containing 12th–14th-century pottery was recorded by the 2013 evaluation between ditches [59]=[61] and [57]=[41]=[37], highlighting activity of this date in the north part of the excavated area. It was suggested that the feature(s) was structural in origin, but it existed in isolation and is difficult to interpret further (Payne 2014).

- It is possible that ditch [59]=[61] represented a Late Saxon-early medieval 134 tenement plot. The term tenement in medieval times referred to a 'piece of real estate that was subject to tenure under common law' (http://www.trytel.com/~tristan/towns/glossary.html). Tenement plots in the 14th century are cited as often measuring c. 4 perches by 20 perches (equivalent to 20m by 100m) or variations around this average size, with a perch being equivalent to c. 5m (Grenville 1997). There are examples cited by Hoskins (1972) where plots in early 13th-century Salisbury were 3 perches by 7 perches, and in Sherbourne where plots were 20 perches by 4 perches, 24 by 4 or 2 by 4. Intriguingly, the main field boundary to the west of the site at the rear of the plot is just over 100m away, perhaps therefore a relic of a 100m-long tenement?.
- 135 Two ditches of the same phase represented by [20]=[12] and [30]=[33] perhaps represent either side of such a tenement. These features were approximately 10.00m apart, possibly a distance based on an approximation of the medieval perch measurement. These ditches both contained pottery ranging from the 12th– 14th century and both appeared deliberately backfilled. The pottery assemblage included many 11th–12th century sherds and pottery of this date was found even within the fill of re-cut [22]. This material was perhaps discarded by earlier activity, subsequently re-deposited as residual finds with later ceramics. Ditch [20]=[12], due to its size and the fact that it completely traverses the plot, may represent a more significant boundary.
- 136 The two gullies [24]=[63] and [57]=[41]=[37] are orientated on a different alignment to the ditches and at an angle to the road. These are interpreted as drainage features, necessary in heavy clay ground. These ditches could also have played a dual role as drainage features. The gully [57]=[41]=[37] was not identified by the preceding evaluation of the site, although it is considered possible that two small features recorded as undated post-holes may, in fact, be part of the gully fill. The evaluation considered that [24]=[63] was contemporary with ditch [26]=[55]=[28 (Payne 2014), although the opportunity afforded to the excavation to investigate a larger area has disproved this; the latter is cut by the former.
- 137 A crudely constructed wall [1] with a return was built from largely re-used bricks and flints. This might represent the lowest surviving course of a small building. There are no illustrations of this possible structure on the maps examined as part of this project. Hodkinson's map of 1783 and the Ordnance Survey map of 1883 (reproduced in Payne 2014), though limited in detail, indicates there is a gap here between the dwellings of the village, possibly shown as an orchard. This might indicate that the small structure was either slightly earlier than the available maps but demolished prior to their surveys, or else later. It could represent an agricultural building, as there is little in the way of 18th- or 19th-century pottery in the vicinity of the site.

CONCLUSIONS

- As the historic environment records indicate, some archaeological investigations 138 have been carried out in Hepworth, and the current site adds materially to what is known of the village's historical development. The cut features present on the site appear to date to the medieval period. Recovering information about the origin and growth of smaller rural settlements in the medieval period is highlighted as a regional research objective, for example by Wade: 'There is a clear need to research rural settlement patterns and their origins for the East of England. It has been noted for example that the region contains both nucleated and dispersed settlement and it is not clear why one or the other developed' (Wade 1997, 52). Any new information regarding this topic is, therefore, valuable to archaeologists. Wade summarises, 'there has been little archaeological work on specific sites' and when mentioning present-day villages, 'No assessment of their archaeological potential has been undertaken, and most of the vacant plots within them have now been in-filled with modern development'. The most recent archaeological research framework for East Anglia brought together by Medlycott (2011) presents a more positive picture, informed by the large amount of fieldwork carried out since 1997.
- The few other archaeological projects undertaken in Hepworth were situated in 139 what is presumed to be the historic core of medieval settlement focused around the parish church, whereas the current site is situated at the likely periphery of medieval settlement. Evidence of Hepworth's possible Late Saxon, if not older, origins have been suggested by two projects. The most important site to date was an excavation on land adjacent to Rose Cottage, Church Lane (HEP 025), where evidence of a Late Saxon building, comprising 16 post-holes laid out in the form of two structures have been unearthed (Gill 2011). A Late Saxon copper-alloy finger ring found at Church Farm, Hepworth (HEP 027) might point to an early origin for the village's core. The peripheral nature of the current site to the villages core allows for useful comparisons to be drawn with these two other sites. Although some Late Saxon pottery sherds were found at Maltings Farm, no features can be assigned that date with certainty. The current site indicates that, with a probably growing population, settlement had perhaps extended southwards almost to the present limits of the modern village by the 10th-12th centuries, with further reorganisation taking place up to the 14th century.
- The current site covers a relatively small area, but still provided an opportunity to 140 construct a development sequence for a medieval land plot. Encouragingly, the 2013 evaluation and the 2014 excavation recovered comparable assemblages of datable ceramics, and did not differ fundamentally in interpretation of events. Activity is restricted to a relatively narrow timespan, not seeming to extend beyond the 14th century. The different positions of ditch boundaries from the 10th to the 14th centuries might indicate re-organisation of the plot over this time, though a tentative suggestion based on a limited data set. It appears all boundary features were deliberately filled by the time the many small pit/possible post-holes were created. Dating evidence from these backfilled boundaries dates to their disuse, perhaps suggesting tenements were subsumed into larger property holdings in the 14th century. Development of this nature in the medieval period has been recorded across eastern England. The following extract concerning Breckland also holds true for northwest Suffolk, 'such changes were undoubtedly facilitated by the disappearance of the highly fragmented medieval landholding structure, and the

gradual extinction of the smallholder. From the mid-fourteenth century, there was a slow but certain tendency [....] towards larger holdings' (Bailey 1986, 45).

- 141 Other factors may also have been an influence on the growth and contraction of activity at the site. The backfilling and/or disuse of ditches may be evidence of a population decreasing in the latter decades of the 14th century in the aftermath of the Black Death. As in other villages, previously settled areas of Hepworth away from the village core, focused around the church, may have become derelict and agricultural in character. On Church Lane (HEP 025), there was no post-15th-century material amongst the finds, prompting the suggestion that the site became arable land towards the end of the medieval period (Gill 2011).
- 142 The relatively large quantity of pottery found on this small site, in particular redeposited hearth waste suggests nearby domestic activity in the period up to the 14th century. Indeed, the large pit [35] and pit [53] are considered typical of 'backyard' activity on such plots. The small pits and possible post-holes, including those found during the evaluation phase, are generally situated in the central portions of the site. They do not appear to form a distinct pattern, but might represent remains of a simple structure, perhaps a basic dwelling or small agricultural shelter. Several of the pit/post-hole features cut the earlier filled ditches. On such heavy clay, dwellings could be built directly onto the ground surface with little need for foundations, leaving little trace in the archaeological record. In the earlier medieval period, dwellings were often located close to and parallel to roads (Steane 1985), and it is possible that the remains of any dwelling at the current site may lie closer to the modern road in the unexcavated part of the plot.
- 143 The finds in themselves provide some clues to life during medieval times with a high proportion of the pottery appears to be from northeast Suffolk and the Waveney valley. This pottery largely comprised coarseware rather than fine ware and indicates a site without high status occupancy. Although common practice, the evidence of skinned horse bones, possibly providing meat for human consumption, may also indicate a more impoverished community. The 13th–14th-century trapezoidal buckle fits neatly into the timeframe of activity at the site.
- 144 It is proposed that the results of the excavation will be presented as a summary report to the annual round-up of archaeological sites presented in the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History* journal.

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Sue Anderson reported on the pottery and ceramic building material, Louise Weetman the metal finds and Julie Curl the faunal remains.

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Context	Category	Cut Type	Fill Of	Description	Period
1	Masonry	Pit		Brick wall	Post-medieval
2	Cut	Construction		Cut for wall	Post-medieval
3	Deposit		2	Fill of [2]	Post-medieval
4	Deposit			Deposit south of wall [1]	Post-medieval
5	Deposit			Deposit north of wall [1]	Post-medieval
6	Cut	Pit		Possible Pit	Medieval
7	Deposit		6	Fill of [6]	Medieval
8	Cut	Pit		Pit/post-hole	Medieval
9	Deposit		8	Fill of [8]	Medieval
10	Cut	Pit		Pit	Medieval
11	Deposit		10	Fill of [10]	Medieval
12	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Medieval
13	Deposit		12	Fill of [12]	Medieval
14	Cut	Post-hole		Post-hole	Medieval
15	Deposit		14	Fill of [14]	Medieval
16	Cut	Pit		Probable natural feature	Medieval
17	Deposit		16	Fill of [16]	Medieval
18	Cut	Drain		Possible French drain	Post-medieval
19	Deposit		18	Fill of [18]	Post-medieval
20	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Medieval
21	Deposit		20	Fill of [20]	Medieval
22	Cut	Ditch		Secondary ditch cut in [20]	Medieval
23	Deposit		22	Fill of [22]	Medieval
24	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Medieval
25	Deposit		24	Fill of [24]	Medieval
26	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Medieval
27	Deposit		26	Fill of [26]	Medieval
28	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Medieval
29	Deposit		28	Fill of [28]	Medieval
30	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Medieval
31	Deposit		30	Fill of [30]	Medieval
32	Deposit		30	Fill of [30]	Medieval
33	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Medieval
34	Deposit		33	Fill of [33]	Medieval
35	Cut	Pit		Pit	Medieval
36	Deposit		35	Fill of [35]	Medieval
37	Cut	Gully		Gully	Medieval
38	Deposit		37	Fill of [37]	Medieval
39	Cut	Post-hole		Possible post-hole in gully	Medieval
40	Deposit		39	Fill of [39]	Medieval
41	Cut	Gully		Gully	Medieval
42	Deposit		41	Fill of [41]	Medieval
43	Cut	Post-hole		Possible post-hole in gully	Medieval
44	Deposit		43	Fill of [43]	Medieval
45	Deposit		35	Fill of [35]	Medieval
46	Deposit		35	Fill of [35]	Medieval
47	Cut	Pit		Probable natural feature	Unknown
48	Deposit		47	Fill of [47]	Medieval

Appendix 1a: Context Summary

49	Cut	Gully		Gully	Medieval
50	Deposit		49	Fill of [49]	Medieval
51	Cut	Gully		Gully Terminus	Medieval
52	Deposit		51	Fill of [51]	Medieval
53	Cut	Pit		Pit	Medieval
54	Deposit		53	Fill of [53]	Medieval
55	Cut	Ditch		Ditch	Medieval
56	Deposit		55	Fill of [55]	Medieval
57	Cut	Gully		Gully	Medieval
58	Deposit		57	Fill of [57]	Medieval
59	Cut	Gully		Gully	Medieval
60	Deposit		59	Fill of [59]	Medieval
61	Cut	Gully		Gully	Medieval
62	Deposit		61	Fill of [61]	Medieval
63	Cut	Gully		Gully	Medieval
64	Deposit		63	Fill of [63]	Medieval
65	U/S Finds			Finds collected whilst machining the site	-
66	Cut	Pit		Pit	Medieval
67	Deposit		66	Fill of [66]	Medieval
68	Deposit			Topsoil	-
69	Deposit			Levelling-subsoil	-
70	Deposit			Subsoil	-
71	U/S Finds			Finds collected whilst machining the site	-
72	U/S Finds			Finds collected whilst machining the site	-

Appendix 1b: Feature Summary

Period	Category	Total
Medieval	Pit/post-holes	9
	Gullies	3
	Ditches	4
	Pit	1
Post-medieval	Drain	1
	Wall	1
	Wall trench	1
	Pit	1

Appendix	2a:	Finds	by	Context
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Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes
1	Brick	2	5,397g	Modern	19th c.
11	Pottery	2	6g	Medieval	11th - 12th c.
13	Animal Bone	6	28g	Unknown	
13	Pottery	1	8g	Roman	
13	Pottery	3	15g	Late Saxon	10th - 11th c.
13	Pottery	2	20g	Medieval	11th - 13th c.
15	Ceramic Building Material	2	2g	Post-medieval	
15	Pottery	1	3g	Medieval	11th - 13th c.
19	Animal Bone	3	21g	Unknown	
19	Ceramic Building Material	7	203g	Post-medieval	
19	Pottery	10	58g	Medieval	11th - 13th c.
19	Pottery	1	19g	Post-medieval	1730 - 1760
21	Animal Bone	9	68g	Unknown	
21	Iron	1	7g	Med./Post-Med.	Nail
21	Pottery	1	9g	Roman	
21	Pottery	1	2g	Middle Saxon	650 - 850
21	Pottery	4	15g	Late Saxon	10th - 11th c.
21	Pottery	14	161g	Medieval	11th - 14th c.
23	Animal Bone	2	62g	Unknown	
23	Pottery	1	1g	Roman	
23	Pottery	1	5g	Middle Saxon	650 - 850
23	Pottery	7	75g	Medieval	11th - 14th c.
27	Pottery	6	16g	Roman	
29	Animal Bone	14	95g	Unknown	
29	Ceramic Building Material	1	12g	Post-medieval	
29	Pottery	1	3g	Medieval	11th - 12th c.
31	Animal Bone	16	86g	Unknown	
31	Ceramic Building Material	1	4g	Roman	
31	Fired Clay	2	7g	Unknown	
31	Pottery	14	119g	Medieval	11th - 14th c.
31	Shell	4	50g	Unknown	Oyster, Discarded
34	Pottery	3	37g	Medieval	11th - 14th c.
36	Animal Bone	13	62g	Unknown	

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes
36	Pottery	1	5g	Roman	
42	Pottery	1	1g	Roman	
45	Pottery	2	17g	Medieval	11th - 13th c.
50	Animal Bone	2	8g	Unknown	
50	Pottery	2	2g	Roman	
50	Pottery	2	6g	Late Saxon	10th - 11th c.
52	Pottery	1	8g	Late Saxon	10th - 11th c.
52	Pottery	1	2g	Medieval	11th - 12th c.
54	Animal Bone	1	9g	Unknown	
54	Pottery	2	12g	Medieval	12th - 14th c.
56	Animal Bone	3	54g	Unknown	
56	Ceramic Building Material	1	3g	Post-medieval	
56	Pottery	1	1g	Late Saxon	10th - 11th c.
58	Pottery	3	5g	Medieval	12th - 14th c.
60	Pottery	1	1g	Roman	
60	Pottery	3	8g	Late Saxon	10th - 11th c.
62	Animal Bone	1	1g	Unknown	
62	Pottery	19	114g	Medieval	12th - 14th c.
62	Shell	12	37g	Unknown	Oyster, Discarded
65	Animal Bone	1	3g	Unknown	
65	Britannia Metal	1	14g	Modern	Spoon handle. Phillip Ashberry & Sons. Sheffield 1829 - 1936.
65	Copper-Alloy	1	1g	Medieval	Sheet repair - patch
65	Copper-Alloy	1	1g	Med./Post-Med.	Strip
65	Copper-Alloy	1	7g	Post-medieval	Button cap
65	Iron	1	11g	Med./Post-Med.	Nail
65	Iron	3	57g	Post-medieval	Nail + Heel Iron
65	Lead	1	42g	Med./Post-Med.	
65	Lead	1	6g	Post-medieval	Sundial. SF2.
65	Pottery	2	49g	Medieval	11th - 13th c.
71	Copper-Alloy	1	7g	Medieval	Buckle. 3 lobed knops on outer edge. Trapezoidal shape. 13th- 14th c. SF1
71	Lead	1	3g	Medieval	
71	Pottery	2	30g	Medieval	11th - 14th c.
72	Iron	1	275g	Post-medieval	Horseshoe

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes
72	Pottery	1	18g	Medieval	11th - 13th c.

Appendix 2b: Finds Summary

Period	Material	Total
Roman	Ceramic Building Material	1
	Pottery	14
Middle Saxon	Pottery	1
Late Saxon	Pottery	15
Medieval	Copper Alloy	2
	Lead	1
	Pottery	86
Med./Post-Med.	Copper Alloy	1
	Iron	2
	Lead	1
Post-medieval	Ceramic Building Material	11
	Copper Alloy	1
	Iron	4
	Lead	1
	Pottery	1
Modern	Brick	2
	Britannia Metal	1
Unknown	Animal Bone	71
	Fired Clay	2
	Shell	16

Context	Fabric	Form name	Rim	No	Wt/g	Fabric date range
11	EMW			1	5	11th-12th c.
11	EMWG			1	1	11th-12th c.
13	ELCW			1	8	Med
13	MCWG	Bowl	FTEV	1	12	L.11th-13th c?
13	RBGM			1	8	RB
13	STNE			1	1	850-1150
13	THET			2	14	10th-11th c.
15	EMWSS			1	3	11th-13th c.
19	CRW	Tankard		1	19	1730-1760
19	EMW			3	9	11th-12th c.
19	EMWSS			5	38	11th-13th c.
19	THET			1	4	10th-11th c.
19	THETG			1	7	10th-11th c.
21	EMW			3	15	11th-12th c.
21	EMWG			1	32	11th-12th c.
21	EMWSS			2	8	11th-13th c.
21	GIPS			1	2	650-850
21	GRIM			1	3	L.12th-14th c.
21	MCW			1	2	L.12th-14th c.
21	MCW	Bowl	FTBD	2	60	L.12th-14th c.
21	MCW	Jug?		1	16	L.12th-14th c.
21	MCWM			2	7	12th-14th c.
21	RBGM	Bowl	UPPL	1	9	RB
21	THET			4	15	10th-11th c.
21	UPG	Jug		1	18	L.12th-14th c.
23	EMW			1	6	11th-12th c.
23	EMWSS			1	3	11th-13th c.
23	GIPS			1	5	650-850
23	GRIM			1	3	L.12th-14th c.
23	HOLL	Jar	BIFID	1	14	L.13th-14th c.
23	MCW			2	14	L.12th-14th c.
23	MCWM	Jar	FTEV	1	35	12th-14th c.
23	RBGM			1	1	RB
27	RBGM			5	15	RB
27	RBGW			1	1	RB
29	EMW			1	3	11th-12th c.
31	BMCW			3	14	L.12th-14th c.
31	BMCWG			1	2	L.12th-14th c.

Appendix 3: Pottery Catalogue

Context	Fabric	Form name	Rim	No	Wt/g	Fabric date range
31	BSFW	Jar	FTEV	1	14	L.12th-14th c.
31	EMW			4	23	11th-12th c.
31	EMWG			2	20	11th-12th c.
31	MCW			2	11	L.12th-14th c.
31	MCW	Bowl	FTEV	1	35	L.12th-14th c.
34	MCWG			1	27	L.11th-13th c?
34	WVCW			2	10	L.12th-14th c.
36	RBGM			1	5	RB
42	RBGM			1	1	RB
45	EMW			1	6	11th-12th c.
45	EMWSG			1	11	11th-13th c.
50	RBGM			1	1	RB
50	RBGW			1	1	RB
50	THET			2	6	10th-11th c.
52	EMW			1	2	11th-12th c.
52	THET			1	8	10th-11th c.
54	MCW			1	6	L.12th-14th c.
54	MCWM			1	6	12th-14th c.
56	THET			1	1	10th-11th c.
58	BMCW			1	1	L.12th-14th c.
58	UNID			2	4	Esax/Emed?
60	RBGM			1	1	RB
60	THET			3	8	10th-11th c.
62	GRIM	Face jug		1	36	L.12th-14th c.
62	HOLL			2	5	L.13th-14th c.
62	HOLL	Bowl	SQBD	1	12	L.13th-14th c.
62	HOLL	Jar	SQBD	1	11	L.13th-14th c.
62	WVCW			14	50	L.12th-14th c.
65	EMW			1	5	11th-12th c.
65	MCWG	Jar	TAP	1	44	L.11th-13th c?
71	EMW			1	3	11th-12th c.
71	WVCW			1	27	L.12th-14th c.
72	GRCW			1	18	11th-M.13th c.

Context	Fabric	Form	°N	Wt/g	Abr	Length	Width	Height	Peg	Mortar	Comments	Date
~	ms?	LB	~	2757		223	105	63		thin ms white all over, except header	complete, fabric uncertain	19th c
~	ms?	LB	~	2640		226	102	62		thin ms white all over, except header	complete, fabric uncertain	19th c
15	sm	LB	2	2							small corner chip	pmed
19	bsm	LB	~	53	+++++							pmed
19	fs	RTP	4	87							surfaces spalled, poss 1 tile	pmed
19	msfe	RTP	~	43								pmed
19	sm	RTP	~	20						thin on one side		pmed
29	msf	RTP	~	12								pmed
31	fscp	RBT?	~	4	+						surfaces mainly lost	Rom?
56	fs	NU	~	ო							RTP or LB	pmed

Appendix 4: CBM Catalogue

Appendix 5: Fired Clay Catalogue

Notes	amorphous lumps
Abrasion	
Impressions	
Surface	
Colour	buff- red
Wt/g	7
No	2
Type	
Fabric	msc
ntext	

Appendix 6: Faunal Remains Catalogue

ul, sk/hc, II t

54

distal half of tibia, burnt black in mid-shaft, charred at end

metacarpal, pelvis, lower molar and mandible frag, young adult

~

2

c, ch

ll, mand, t, pel

4

4

Sheep/goat

86.00

16

30

31

 \sim

N - -

Sheep/goat

62.00 8.00 9.00

7 13

35 49 53

36 50 54

Sheep/goat Sheep/goat

sheep horn core frags, humerus, radius, mt shaft

lower molar 1

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등

u t u

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Appendix 7: Environmental Results

Sample No.	1	2	3	4
Context No.	45	21	31	54
Feature No.	35	20	30	53
Cereals and other potential crop plants				
Avena sp. (grains)		xcffg	х	XX
(awn frags.)				x
Hordeum sp. (grains)		xcf	xx	xxx
(rachis nodes)				х
Secale cereale L. (grains)		xcf		xcf
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)	xcf	х	x	ххх
T. aestivum/compactum type (rachis nodes)		х	x	xx
Cereal indet. (grains)	xfg	xfg	xx	xxx
(basal rachis nodes)				х
Pisum sativum L.				xcf
Vicia faba L.			xcf	
Large Fabaceae indet.			х	х
Herbs				
Bromus sp.			xcf	х
Fabaceae indet.	х		х	х
Galium aparine L.			х	
Hyoscyamus niger L.		х		xxx
Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolia				х
Large Poaceae indet.		х		
Raphanus raphanistrum L. (siliqua frags.)			х	х
Rumex sp.			x	XX
Tree/shrub macrofossils				
Corylus avellana L.		х		
<i>Crataegus</i> sp.		Х		
<i>Quercus</i> sp. (cupule base)				xcf
Other plant macrofossils				
Charcoal <2mm	XXX	ХХХ	XXXX	XXXX
Charcoal >2mm	XXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX
Charcoal >5mm	х	х	XXX	XX
Charcoal >10mm			XX	
Charred root/stem	Х		XX	XXX
Ericaceae indet. (stem)				xcf
Indet. bud			х	
Indet. culm nodes				XX
Indet.inflorescence frags.				xx
Indet. prickles				x
Indet. seeds			х	х

Other remains				
Black porous 'cokey' material	ХХ		xx	xxx
Black tarry material	x	х		
Black spherical concretions (possibly natural)		xx		x
Bone	xx xb	x xb		x
Burnt/fired clay	х	х	х	x
Burnt stone		х		
Fish bone	х			
Mineralised faecal material				х
Small coal frags.	х	х		
Small mammal/amphibian bones	ХХ	х		x xb
Vitreous material	х	х		
White mineral concretions		х		
Mollusc shells				
Woodland/shade loving species				
Aegopinella sp.			х	
Open country species				
Helicella itala		х	х	
Vallonia sp.		х	х	х
V. costata				х
V. pulchella		xcf		
Catholic species				
Cochlicopa sp.		х	х	х
Trichia hispida group			х	x
Marsh/freshwater species				
Anisus leucostoma				xb
<i>Bithynia</i> sp.				xb
Gyraulus albus				xb
<i>Lymnaea</i> sp.				x xb
L. truncatula				xxb
Planorbis sp.				xb
P. planorbis				xxb
Succinea sp.				xb
Sample volume (litres)	40	40	40	30
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.2
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	50%

Key to Table x = 1-10 specimens xx = 11-50 specimens xxx = 51-100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens cf = compare fg = fragment b = burnt

Appendix 8: 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: norfolka1-189638

Project details

Project name Maltings Farm, Hepworth, Suffolk E&AVATION

Short description of the project	An archaeological excavation was undertaken in September 2014 for Burgess Homes Ltd. ahead of the construction of a new house on a plot of land at Maltings Farm, The Street, Hepworth in Suffolk. A group of archaeological features was recorded and dated to the medieval period. The features consisted of ditches, gullies and small pits/postholes, interpreted as being typical of medieval roadside development. There appeared to be evidence for more than one phase of activity. The date range for two medieval boundary ditches ended in the 11th and 12th centuries, whilst the date range for others ended in the 14th century. This indicated reorganisation of medieval tenement plots on the site from the 11th through to the 14th century. There was also possible evidence for the use of the medieval perch measurement (c. 5m) as the unit of organisation for the plots. Several of the small pits/postholes may have formed part of an agricultural structure, or a low status domestic dwelling; the features cut the backfilled ditches and are indicative of further change in land use. The lack of evidence for activity after the 14th century may indicate that the plots were subsumed into a larger property, or it could perhaps represent a declining population following years of plague in the mid14th century, which caused contraction in village siz. The excavation has usefully added to the debate on the origin and growth of smaller rural settlements, which has been highlighted as a research topic for the medieval period in the east of England.
Project dates	Start: 01092014 End: 08092014
Previous/future work	¥s / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	HEP033 -HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cassland Heathland 2 -Undisturbed Cassland
Monument type	POSTHOLE Medieval
Monument type	GLLMedieval
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	PIT Medieval

Monument type DRAIN Post Medieval

Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Roman
Significant Finds	POT Roman
Significant Finds	POT Early Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	LEAD Medieval
Significant Finds	LEAD Post Medieval
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLO'Medieval
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLOYPost Medieval
Significant Finds	IRON Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Modern
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Uncertain
Significant Finds	FIRED CLAYUncertain
Significant Finds	SHELL Uncertain
Investigation type	Dpenarea excavation'
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework -NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK ST EDMUNDSBUR HEPWORTH Land at Maltings Farm
Study area	0.15 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 9859 7465 52.3334584373 0.915077206607 52 20 00 N 000 54 54 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 46.00m Max: 46.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	NPS Archaeology
Project brief originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services
Project design originator	NPS Archaeology
Project director/manager	Peter, E. Crawley
Project supervisor	NPS Archaeology

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones,'Ceramics,'Metal'
Digital Archive recipient	NPS Archaeology

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bther'
Images raster / digital photography;Images vector;Text'
Suffolk County Council
bther'
Context sheet;Plan;Report;Section'
Bey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Archaeological Excavation at Maltings Farm,
Crawley, P.
2014/1076
2015
NPS Archaeology
Norwich
A. Crowson (andrew.crowson@s.co.uk)
29 January 2015

Appendix 9: Archaeological Brief



Economy, Skills and Environment 9–10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall Bury St Edmunds Suffolk **IP33 1RX**

Brief for Archaeological Excavation

AT

Maltings Farm, The Street, Hepworth

PLANNING AUTHORITY:	St Edmundsbury Borough Council
PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:	SE/12/0646/FUL
HER NO. FOR THIS PROJECT:	HEP 032
GRID REFERENCE:	TL 986 746
DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL:	Housing
AREA:	0.15ha
THIS BRIEF ISSUED BY:	Rachael Monk Assistant Archaeological officer Conservation Team Tel. : 01284 741230 E-mail: Rachael.monk@suffolk.gov.uk
Date:	2 April 2014

Date:

Summary

1.1 Planning permission has been granted with the following conditions (Condition 10 and 11) relating to archaeological investigation:

No development shall commence within the whole site until the developer has carried out a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which first shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The Written Scheme of Investigation shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:

- The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording a.
- b. The programme for post investigation assessment
- Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording C.

d. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation

e. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation

f. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.

g. The site investigation shall be completed prior to development, or in such other phased arrangement, as agreed and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

No dwelling hereby permitted shall be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Condition 10 and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.

- 1.2 The archaeological contractor must send a copy of their Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) or Method Statement, based upon this brief of minimum requirements (and in conjunction with our standard Requirements for Excavation 2012), to the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS/CT) for scrutiny; SCCAS/CT is the advisory body to the LPA on archaeological issues.
- 1.3 The WSI should be approved before costs are agreed with the commissioning client, in line with Institute for Archaeologists' guidance. Failure to do so could result in additional and unanticipated costs.
- 1.4 Following acceptance, the applicant should submit the WSI to the LPA form formal approval; failure to do so could result in enforcement action by the LPA.
- 1.5 The WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met. If the approved WSI is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected.

Archaeological Background

2.1 The proposed development lies in an area of archaeological potential, indicated by the County Historic Environment Record. The site is located within the historic core of Hepworth (HER no. HEP 031) on a street fronted by listed medieval and post-medieval buildings and finds of medieval pottery have been recorded from the immediate area of the proposal (HEP 012, HEP 013). In addition the development is situated adjacent to a number of multi-period findspots (HEP 017, HEP 022). An archaeological evaluation carried out at the site detected numerous finds and features of Saxon and medieval date. As a result groundworks will damage or destroy the archaeological remains which are present at this site.

Planning Background

- 3.1 The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage archaeological deposits at this site.
- 3.2 The Planning Authority has been advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before

development begins in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (Paragraph 141), to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets before they are damaged or destroyed.

Fieldwork Requirements for Archaeological Investigation

- 4.1 Archaeological investigation is to be carried out prior to development. A controlled strip and excavation is to be undertaken within the area outlined in red on the attached plan, for any parts of the site where significant groundworks are going to be carried out as part of the development. No excavation is required to the rear of the dwellings as long as no significant ground disturbance or landscaping is carried out in this area, or to the south of site where evaluation did not detect any archaeology.
- 4.2 A scale plan showing the proposed location of the excavation areas should also be included in the WSI and must be approved by SCCAS/CT before fieldwork begins.
- 4.3 The SCCAS Requirements for Excavation 2012 should be adhered to.
- 4.4 Any other ground works associated with the development, including any below ground works associated with the provision of services, and also the upcast soil, are to be closely monitored during and after excavation by the archaeological contractor in order to ensure no damage occurs to any heritage assets. Adequate time is to be allowed for archaeological recording of archaeological deposits during excavation, and of soil sections following excavation.
- 4.5 The archaeological investigation should provide a record of archaeological deposits which are damaged or removed by any development [including services and landscaping] permitted by the current planning consent. Opportunity must be given to the archaeological contractor to hand excavate and record any archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations, within safe parameters.
- 4.6 The method and form of development should be also monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based.
- 4.7 If unexpected remains are encountered SCCAS/CT must be informed immediately. Amendments to this brief may be required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

Arrangements for Archaeological Investigation

- 5.1 All arrangements for the excavation of the site, the timing of the work and access to the site, are to be defined and negotiated by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.
- 5.2 The project has a unique code number from the evaluation (HER no. HEP 032). This number must be clearly marked on all documentation relating to the work.
- 5.3 The composition of the archaeological contractor's staff must be detailed and agreed by SCCAS/CT, including any subcontractors/specialists. Ceramic

specialists, in particular, must have relevant experience from this region, including knowledge of local ceramic sequences.

- 5.4 A timetable for fieldwork and assessment stages of the project must be presented in the WSI and agreed with SCCAS/CT before the fieldwork commences.
- 5.5 All arrangements for the excavation, the timing of the work and access to the site, are to be defined and negotiated by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.
- 5.6 If the archaeological excavation is scheduled to be undertaken immediately before construction, the commissioning body should be aware that there may be a time delay for excavation and recording if unexpected and complex archaeological remains are defined. Adequate time is to be allowed for full archaeological recording of archaeological deposits before any construction work can commence on site (unless otherwise agreed by the LPA on the advice of SCCAS/CT).
- 5.7 The project manager must also carry out a risk assessment and ensure that all potential risks are minimised, before commencing the fieldwork. The responsibility for identifying any constraints on fieldwork, e.g. designated status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites and other ecological considerations, and land contamination, rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor.
- 5.8 The WSI must state the security measures to protect the site from vandalism and theft, and to secure any deep holes.
- 5.9 Provision should be included in the WSI for public benefit in the form of communication and outreach activities.
- 5.10 The archaeological contractor will give SCCAS/CT ten working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored. The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to agreed locations and techniques in the WSI.

Post-Excavation Assessment and Archival Requirements

- 6.1 Within four weeks of the end of fieldwork a written timetable for post-excavation assessment, updated project design and/or reporting must be produced, which must be approved by SCCAS/CT. Following this, a written statement of progress on post-excavation work whether assessment, analysis, report writing and publication or archiving will be required at six monthly intervals.
- 6.2 A post-excavation assessment (PXA) report on the fieldwork should be prepared in accordance with the principles of *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006). The PXA will act as a critically assessed audit of the archaeological evidence from the site; see East Anglian Archaeology *Draft Post Excavation Assessments: Notes on a New Guidance Document* (2012).

- 6.3 In certain instances a full PXA might be unnecessary. The need for a full PXA or otherwise should be discussed and formally agreed with SCCAS/CT within four weeks of the end of fieldwork.
- 6.4 The PXA must present a clear and concise assessment of the archaeological value and significance of the results, and identifies the research potential, in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3, 8 and 24, 1997, 2000 and 2011). It must present an Updated Project Design, with a timetable, for analysis, dissemination and archive deposition. The PXA will *provide the basis for measurable standards* for SCCAS/CT to monitor this work.
- 6.5 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared, consistent with the principles of *MoRPHE*. It must be adequate to perform the function of a final archive for deposition in the Archaeological Store of SCCAS/CT or in a suitable museum in Suffolk (see Archaeological Archives Forum: a guide to best practice 2007).
- 6.6 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with guidelines from *The Institute of Conservation* (ICON).
- 6.7 The project manager should consult the intended archive depository before the archive is prepared regarding the specific requirements for the archive deposition and curation, and regarding any specific cost implications of deposition. The intended depository must be prepared to accept the entire archive resulting from the project (both finds and written archive) in order to create a complete record of the project. A clear statement of the form, intended content, and standards of the archive is to be submitted for approval as an essential requirement of the WSI.
- 6.8 The PXA should offer a statement of significance for retention, based on specialist advice, and where it is justified the UPD should propose a discard strategy. This should be agreed with the intended archive depository.
- 6.9 For deposition in the SCCAS/CT's Archaeological Store, the archive should comply with SCCAS Archive Guidelines 2010. If this is not the intended depository, the project manager should ensure that a duplicate copy of the written archive is deposited with the Suffolk HER.
- 6.10 The UPD should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), or similar digital archive repository, and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure proper deposition (http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html).
- 6.11 An unbound hardcopy of the PXA and UPD (or grey literature report if otherwise agreed), clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated. Following acceptance, a single hard copy of the report should be presented to the Suffolk HER as well as a digital copy of the approved report.
- 6.12 On approval of an adequate PXA and UPD, SCCAS/CT will advise the LPA that the scheme of investigation for post-excavation analysis, dissemination and archive deposition has been agreed.

- 6.13 Where appropriate, a copy of the approved PXA should be sent to the local archaeological museum, whether or not it is the intended archive depository. A list of local museum can be obtained from SCCAS/CT.
- 6.14 SCCAS/CT supports the OASIS project, to provide an online index to archaeological reports. 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 and a copy must be included in the final report and also with the site archive. A .pdf version of the entire report should be uploaded to the OASIS website.
- 6.15 Where positive results are drawn from a project, a summary report must be prepared, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT, by the end of the calendar year in which the work takes place, whichever is the sooner.

Standards and Guidance

Detailed requirements are to be found in our Requirements for Archaeological Excavation 2012 Ver 1.1 and in SCCAS Archive Guidelines 2010

Standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.

The Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation* (revised 2008) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

Notes

There are a number of archaeological contractors that regularly undertake work in the County and SCCAS will provide advice on request. SCCAS/CT does not give advice on the costs of archaeological projects. The Institute for Archaeologists maintains a list of registered archaeological contractors (<u>www.archaeologists.net</u> or 0118 378 6446).

This brief remains valid for 6 months. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the brief may need to be revised and re-issued to take account of new discoveries, changes in policy and techniques.


Appendix 10: Written Scheme of Investigation



01-04-15-2-1076

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Archaeological excavation Maltings Farm, Hepworth, Suffolk Written Scheme of Investigation









Prepared for Burgess Homes Ltd The Grove Magpie Green Wortham Suffolk IP22 1RG

NPS Archaeology

August 2014

www.nps.co.uk

Location	Maltings Farm, Hepworth, Suffolk
District	St. Edmundsbury
Client	Burgess Homes Ltd

DOCUMENT CHECKLIST				
Project Manager	Nigel Page			
Completed by	Nigel Page	25/042014		
Reviewed by	Pete Crawley	25/04/2014		
Issue 1				
Revised	Nigel Page	07/05/2014		
Issue 2				
Revised	Jayne Bown	10/07/2014		
Issue 3				
Revised	Jayne Bown	18/08/2014		
Issue 4				
Revised	Jayne Bown	20/08/2014		
Reviewed by	David Adams	21/08/2014		
Issue 5				
Revised by	Jayne Bown	26/08/2014		
Issue 6				

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Archaeological excavation Written Scheme of Investigation

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Proposals to construct new houses on a plot of land at Malting Farm, Hepworth, Suffolk (NGR TL 9859 7465), require an archaeological excavation as previous evaluation¹ of the site revealed a series of features relating to Late Saxon and medieval occupation across part of the development area. Therefore Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), as advisors to the Local Planning Authority, recommended that a condition be applied to the planning permission that part of the site is subject to archaeological excavation.
- 1.2 This Written Scheme of Investigation has been prepared by NPS Archaeology in response to an invitation from Burgess Homes Ltd. to provide a Project Design and costs for undertaking a programme of archaeological works to fulfil the requirements of the Archaeological Brief for Archaeological Excavation issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (Rachael Abraham (nee Monk) 2 April 2014) and Requirements for Archaeological Excavation 2012 also issued by SCCAS. The area to be excavated was revised following a discussion about the scheme held at the offices of SCCAS on 18 August 2014 between Rachael Abraham and Matthew Brudenell (SCCAS), Simon Burgess (Burgess Homes Ltd) and Jayne Bown (NPS Archaeology).

2. Aims

- 2.1 The Programme of excavation is required to recover as much information as possible on the origins, date, development, phasing, spatial organisation, character, function, status, significance and the nature of social, economic and industrial activities on the proposed development site.
- 2.2 The aims of the archaeological work may therefore be summarised as follows:
 - *i.* To determine the extent, condition, nature, quality and date of any archaeological remains occurring within the area of the excavation.
 - *ii.* Ensure that any archaeological features discovered are identified, sampled and recorded.
 - *iii.* To establish, as far as possible, the extent, character, stratigraphic sequence and date of archaeological features and deposits, and the nature of the activities which occurred at the site during the various periods or phases of its occupation.
 - iv. To establish the palaeoenvironmental potential of subsurface deposits by ensuring that any deposits with the potential to yield palaeoenvironmental data are sampled and submitted for assessment to the appropriate specialists.
 - v. To explore evidence for social, economic and industrial activity.
 - vii. To produce an assessment report and updated project design.

3. Mitigation Strategy

3.1 The mitigation strategy presented in this document has been designed to record archaeological remains affected by the development within a pre-defined area (see plan attached). Where archaeological remains are identified, and these cannot be preserved *in situ*, the impacts of the scheme will be minimised by appropriate levels of archaeological excavation and recording.

¹ Payne D, 2014, *Archaeological evaluation at Maltings Farm, The Street, Hepworth, Suffolk* Unpublished Archaeoserv (Dennis Payne Archaeological Services) report

- 3.2 The mitigation strategy comprises excavation of a single area that encompasses the footprint of the proposed new houses in the northern part of the site (plan attached).
- 3.3 The excavation will be a central part of the construction programme and may take place whilst construction works are underway in the southern part of the site.
- 3.4 The elements of the mitigation strategy may be summarised as follows:
 - *i. Excavation.* Where significant archaeological remains exist and will be affected by construction, these remains will be recorded through archaeological excavation of the excavation area. All archaeological features or deposits will be cleaned and excavated to determine function, form and relative date. Full written, drawn and photographic records of all excavated archaeological deposits and features will be produced.
 - *ii.* Post-fieldwork Processing. The drawn and written, photographic, stratigraphic and structural record will be cross-referenced and entered onto a database to provide a consistent and compatible record of the results of the various elements of fieldwork. Artefactual and ecofactual material recovered during the fieldwork will be cleaned, marked and packaged in accordance with the archive requirements of the Suffolk Store or relevant museum. A database of these materials will be compiled.
 - *iii.* Assessment and reporting. On completion of all fieldwork and the Post-fieldwork Processing, an assessment will be made of the stratigraphic and structural records and the artefactual and environmental materials. This assessment will identify the tasks required to carry the project through to publication and completion and those tasks will be presented in an Assessment Report and Updated Project Design. A final report or publication report will be prepared based on the results of the assessment.
- 3.5 The elements to be employed during this project are outlined below. The proposed programme must be agreed in writing with Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service before commencement.

4. Method Statement

4.1 Excavation Fieldwork

- 4.1.1 The excavation will cover the footprints of the houses in the northern section of the site (*c*.400 square metres). The excavation area will be set out by Burgess Homes Ltd prior to any works commencing.
- 4.1.2 Excavation will be undertaken to the top of any archaeological horizons or the undisturbed natural deposits, whichever is the higher.
- 4.1.3 The excavation areas will be mechanically stripped to the appropriate levels and manually cleaned, where required. All exposed surfaces and spoil will be screened with a metal detector.
- 4.1.4 If excavation depths exceed 1.2m, or the excavation sides are considered too unstable to provide safe working conditions, excavation edges will be locally stepped. Fencing of the site will be the responsibility of Burgess Homes Ltd.
- 4.1.5 Spoil from the excavation will not be removed from site. Once complete, the excavation area will not be backfilled (if required) until agreement to do so is given by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service. All backfilled areas will be left in a safe condition.
- 4.1.6 Exposed archaeological features and deposits will be excavated by hand and screened by metal detector. Spoil from machine stripping and from hand-excavated features will be scanned with metal detector used by an experienced operator.

- 4.1.7 All artefactual and ecofactual materials will be collected and, where possible, related to the context from which they derived. All retained materials will be stored in stable conditions until arrangements for their processing and analysis are made.
- 4.1.8 Detailed strategies for levels of sampling of buried soils, structures, pits, post-holes and ditches will be determined on site. Allowance will be made for total recovery where appropriate; percentage sampling will apply in areas of complex stratified deposits are encountered. Buried soils will be sampled by sieving to determine artefact densities. In general, the following feature/deposit sampling strategy will be employed wherever site conditions allow in accordance with the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003):

linear features	10%, with all slots at least 1m wide
non-linear features (pits and postholes)	Exposed features half-sectioned
structures	100%
post-trenches/slots	100% (including longitudinal sections)
burials	100%
buried soils	100% (with 2mm mesh sieving)

Where required, features and deposits will be totally excavated

- 4.1.9 All archaeological deposits, features and layers will be recorded using NPS Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system. The records will include full written, graphic and photographic elements with site and context numbering compatible with the Suffolk Historic Environment Record numbering system. Plans will be made at suitable scales, depending on the complexity of the archaeological deposits and the level of detail required. Typically the scales used will be 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10. Sections will be drawn at scales of 1:10 and 1:20 depending on the detail considered necessary. A photographic record in black and white and colour (35mm film/digital) will be maintained of all archaeological deposits, layers and features to record their characteristic and relationships. Digital photographs will also be taken to record the pre-excavation condition of the site, the progress of the excavation and the appearance of the site following the completion of the excavation.
- 4.1.10 Human remains, if encountered, will be left *in situ* unless it is not possible to retain them within the final design plans, or if they are likely to be disturbed by any aspect of the development. The number of burials to be removed will be agreed in writing before removal begins. It is considered unlikely that human remains are present at the excavation site.
- 4.1.11 Should human remains or burials be encountered which must be removed an application for a Licence For the Removal of Human Remains will be made in compliance with Section 25 of the Burial Act, 1857. No human remains will be removed until permission has been granted in writing by The Ministry of Justice, in line with the recent review of the Burial Law and Archaeology. Human remains will be screened from public view during the course of the excavation. Backfilling of any graves or excavation areas containing human remains that are not excavated will be done manually to ensure that the remains are appropriately protected from any damage or disturbance.
- 4.1.12 Soil samples with the potential to contain palaeoenvironmental materials will be collected if suitable deposits are encountered. Standard 40 litre bulk soil samples, column or monolith samples and Kubiena tins will be collected from such deposits as appropriate, in consultation with the English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science and other consultant environmentalists. In all instances, sampling procedures will follow the guidelines set out in the document *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (English Heritage 2002). Full written, graphic and photographic sample records will be made using NPS Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system.
- 4.1.13 Samples with the potential to contain evidence of industrial processes will be collected from suitable deposits. This will concentrate on recovering further evidence for the iron working taking place on or near the site. Sampling and storage of recovered material will

in line with the *Centre for Archaeology Guidelines: Archaeometallurgy* (English Heritage 2010).

- 4.1.14 Should any waterlogged material such as timbers or organic artefacts and ecofacts be encountered they will be recorded, removed from site and kept in suitable and stable conditions until arrangements for their analysis can be arranged. It is considered unlikely that waterlogged remains are present at the excavation site.
- 4.1.15 An online OASIS record will be initiated immediately prior to the start of fieldwork and completed when the final report is submitted to Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service.

4.2 Post-Fieldwork Processing

- 4.2.1 The purpose of this phase is to ensure that all elements of the site record are crossreferenced and compatible with each other for the post-excavation assessment and reporting stages.
- 4.2.2 The drawn, photographic and written stratigraphic and structural records will be crossreferenced and, if appropriate, entered into an archaeological database. Information from the excavation will be added to develop an overall site project database that will be used as the basis for interpretation of the results and the production of project reports and any publication.
- 4.2.3 The cleaning and cataloguing of any artefactual and ecofactual materials recovered will be undertaken on completion of the excavation. All retained materials will be cleaned, marked and packaged in accordance with the requirements of the Suffolk Archaeological Store, o an appropriate museums. Finds data will be stored on a database to allow summary listings of artefacts by category and context to provide basic quantification.
- 4.2.4 An archive structured in accordance with guidelines laid out in *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2007) will be created.

4.3 Assessment

- 4.3.1 On completion of all stages of the fieldwork and the post-excavation processing, an assessment of the archive (including written, drawn, photographic and artefactual elements) will be undertaken in line with the recommendations set out in the document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) (2006). This assessment will summarise the stratigraphic, artefactual and environmental evidence and evaluate both its significance and potential to address the research aims of the project. The assessment will involve detailed work on the different archive elements and the production of catalogues, illustrative material and specialist reports.
- 4.3.2 A stratigraphic matrix and accompanying text sections will be prepared where appropriate in order to establish the stratigraphic sequence and phasing of the archaeological remains.
- 4.3.3 An assessment of the finds data stored on the finds database will be undertaken in line with the procedures set out in the document *Standards and Guidelines for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (Institute for Archaeologists 2001).
- 4.3.4 The finds assessment will start upon completion of the finds processing and will involve the identification and description of the artefactual materials by the relevant specialists. In general, the following strategies will be employed in the analysis of the artefactual materials recovered:
 - *Pottery*. Analysed to determine date and tabulated by context unit.
 - Worked flint. Sorted and tabulated by context unit.

- *Metal artefacts.* Assessed for dating and significance, catalogued by context unit and where necessary conserved within four weeks of completion of fieldwork, in accordance with UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines.
- *Faunal Remains*. Sorted and tabulated by context unit. Assessed for the potential for further analysis and for sieving for the recovery of smaller bird and fish bones.
- Environmental Samples. Processed and assessed for content and significance.
- Other categories of artefacts or ecofacts will be analysed in a similar fashion.
- 4.3.5 Classes of artefacts that are considered appropriate for use as dating evidence will be analysed to a level to establish a site chronology. Descriptive catalogues for each category of material will be prepared, detailing attributes of the assemblage such as the range and variety of types, composition, and date. This data will be presented in tabular, graphic and appendix form. The potential of all categories of artefactual materials will be assessed in relation to both the excavation's stated research objectives and wider regional research objectives. This assessment will be undertaken by relevant specialists, who will recommend the artefact groups or categories that warrant more detailed analysis
- 4.3.6 An assessment of artefact conservation requirements will be undertaken in conjunction with the Conservation Department at Norwich Castle Museum. This assessment will identify the range and condition of finds requiring treatment and the appropriate conservation methodology and analytical techniques to be employed. Metal objects that require X-radiography in order to complete their analysis will also be identified. In all instances, conservation assessment procedures will follow the frameworks set out in the documents *Excavated Artefacts and Conservation* (UKIC *Conservation Guidelines No 1*, 1988) and *A Strategy for the Care and Investigation of Finds* (Ancient Monuments Laboratory 1995). Conservation of those finds identified by the Conservation Assessment as requiring treatment will be undertaken by the Conservation Department at Norwich Castle Museum.
- 4.3.7 Environmental samples taken during the course of the excavation will be assessed in relation to the project's stated research objectives. Bulk soil samples taken during the excavation will be processed employing manual flotation/bulk sieving methods and the flots scanned to assess potential. Pollen samples will be treated by standard methods and slides scanned to assess pollen grain abundance and state of preservation. Animal bone from selected contexts will be scanned to assess condition and species representation. Any other environmental samples taken will be assessed using recognised procedures for the particular category of material. The assessment of environmental material in all instances will follow the guidelines set out in the document *Environmental Archaeology and Archaeological Evaluations* (Association for *Environmental Archaeology Working Papers No 2*, 1995).
- 4.3.8 The stages of assessment set out above will result in an Updated Project Design that will provide details of the tasks required to carry the works to appropriate publication.
- 4.3.9 The assessment report and Updated Project Design will be submitted to Burgess Homes Ltd. and Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service at the end of the agreed postfieldwork assessment period.
- 4.3.10 Following discussions and consideration of the results of the assessment report and Updated Project Design, the task list and a timetable for analysis and publication, if appropriate, will be agreed. These tasks may require additional costs and these will be confirmed once the Updated Project Design has been approved by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service.
- 4.3.11 All archaeological materials, excepting those covered by the *Treasure Act, 1996*, will remain the property of the landowners. NPS Archaeology will seek to reach a formal agreement with the landowners for the donation of the finds to the Suffolk Store or relevant museum.

5. Timetable

5.1 The timetable for fieldwork assumes that are no major delays to the work programme caused by vandalism, repeated plant breakdown, restricted access, programme changes by Burgess Homes Ltd or major periods of adverse weather conditions.

6. Staffing

- 6.1 The project will be co-ordinated by a Project Officer who will be dedicated to the project throughout its duration. The Project Officer will be responsible for the day to day running of the fieldwork and reporting. The Archaeology Manager will assume responsibility for all aspects of the project including finance, logistics, standards, health and safety, and liaison with Burgess Homes Ltd and curators. The Project Officer will have substantial experience in urban archaeological excavation and post-excavation analysis.
- 6.2 Other members of staff involved in the project will be the Experienced Excavators and Finds Co-ordinator staff. Experienced Excavator staff will have experience in excavation and experience with NPS Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system or similar systems. The Project Officer and/or Experienced Excavator staff will be experienced metal detector users.
- 6.3 NPS Archaeology staff associated with the project will be as follows:

Project Management				
Archaeology Manager	Jayne Bown			
Project Staff				
Project Officer	Pete Crawley			
Finds Officer	Becky Sillwood			
Project Assistants (archaeological excavators)	To be nominated			

- 6.4 NPS Archaeology reserves the right, because of its developing work programme, to change its nominated personnel at any time. This will be in consultation with Burgess Homes Ltd and Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service.
- 6.5. The analysis of artefactual and ecofactual materials will be undertaken by NPS Archaeology staff or nominated external specialists Nominated NPS Archaeology and external specialists and their areas of expertise are as follows:
- 6.5.1 Specialists used NPS Archaeology

Specialist	Research Field
Andy Barnett	Metal-detectorist, Numismatic Items
Sarah Bates	Worked Flint
Fran Green	General Environmental
Julie Curl	Faunal Remains
Sue Anderson	Post-Roman Pottery, Ceramic Building Material
Debbie Forkes	Conservation
Val Fryer	Macrofossil analysis
Stephen Heywood	Architectural Stonework
Richard Macphail	Micromorphology
Adrian Marsden	Numismatist
Jo Mills	Worked Stone Artefacts
Andrew Peachey	Prehistoric and Roman Pottery, Fired Clay

7. General Conditions

- 7.1 NPS Archaeology will not commence work until a written order or signed agreement is received from Burgess Homes Ltd. Where the commission is received through an Agent, the Agent is deemed to be authorised to act on behalf of the Client. NPS Archaeology reserve the right to recover unpaid fees for the service provided from the Agent where it is found that this authority is contested by said Client.
- 7.2 NPS Archaeology would expect information on any services crossing the site to be provided by the Burgess Homes Ltd.

- 7.3 A 7.4 hour working day is normally operated by NPS Archaeology, although their agents may work outside these hours.
- 7.4 NPS Archaeology would expect Burgess Homes Ltd to arrange suitable access to the site for its staff, plant and welfare facilities on the agreed start date.
- 7.5 NPS Archaeology would expect any information concerning the presence of TPOs and/or protected flora and fauna on the site to be provided by Burgess Homes Ltd prior to the commencement of works and accept no liability if this information is not disclosed. No excavation will take place within 8m or canopy width (whichever is the greater) of any trees within or bordering the site.
- 7.6 NPS Archaeology shall not be held responsible for any delay or failure in meeting agreed deadlines resulting from circumstances beyond its reasonable control. Such circumstances would include without limitation; long periods of adverse weather conditions, flooding, repeated vandalism, ground contamination, delays in the development programme, unsafe buildings, conflicts between the archaeological excavation method and the protection of flora and fauna on the site, disease restrictions, and unexploded ordnance.
- 7.7 Whether or not CDM regulations apply to this work, NPS Archaeology would expect Burgess Homes Ltd to provide information on the nature, extent and level of any soil contamination present. Should unanticipated contaminated ground be encountered during the trial trenching, excavation will cease until an assessment of risks to health has been undertaken and on-site control measures implemented. NPS Archaeology will not be liable for any costs related to the collection and analysis of soils or other assessment methods, on-site control measures, and the removal of contaminated soil or other materials from site.
- 7.8 Should any disease restrictions be implemented for the area during the evaluation, fieldwork will cease and staff redeployed until they are lifted. NPS Archaeology will not be liable for any costs related to on-site disease control measures and for any additional costs incurred to complete the fieldwork after the restrictions have been removed.
- 7.9 NPS Archaeology will not accept responsibility for any tree surgery, removal of undergrowth, shrubbery or hedges or reinstatement of gardens. NPS Archaeology will endeavour to restrict the levels of disturbance of to a minimum but wishes to bring to the attention of the Burgess Homes Ltd that the works will necessarily alter the appearance of the site (currently pasture).

8. Quality Standards

- 8.1 NPS Archaeology is an Institute *for* Archaeologists Registered Organisation and fully endorses the Code of Conduct and the Code of Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Archaeology. All staff employed or subcontracted by NPS Archaeology will be employed in line with The Institute *for* Archaeologists Code of Practice
- 8.2 The guidelines set out in the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) will be adhered to. Provision will be made for monitoring the work by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service in accordance with the procedures outlined in the document *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991). Monitoring opportunities for each phase of the project are suggested as follows:
 - during excavation fieldwork
 - during post-fieldwork analysis
 - upon completion of the archive
 - upon receipt of the assessment report
 - upon receipt of et archive report

- 8.3 A further monitoring opportunity will be provided at the end of the project upon deposition of the integrated archive and finds with the Suffolk Store or relevant museum.
- 8.4 NPS Archaeology operates a Project Management System. Most aspects of this project will be co-ordinated by a Project Officer who is responsible for the successful completion of the fieldwork and the report. The Archaeology Manager retains overall responsibility for the delivery of this project. The Archaeology Manager has the responsibility for all of NPS Archaeology's work and ensures the maintenance of quality standards within the organisation.

9. Health and Safety

- 9.1 NPS Archaeology will ensure that all work is carried out in accordance with NPS Property Consultants Limited's Health and Safety Policy, to standards defined in *the Health and Safety at Work, etc Act, 1974* and *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations, 1992*, and in accordance with the health and safety manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (SCAUM 2007).
- 9.2 A risk assessment will be prepared for the fieldwork. All staff will be briefed on the contents of the risk assessment and required to read it. Protective clothing and equipment will be issued and used as required.
- 9.3 NPS Archaeology will provide copies of NPS Property Consultants Limited's Health and Safety policy on request.

10. Insurance

10.1 NPS Archaeology's Insurance Cover is:

Employers Liability	£5,000,000
Public Liability	£50,000,000
Professional Indemnity	£10,000,000

10.2 Full details of NPS Archaeology's Insurance cover will be supplied on request.