

Mission Hall, Ipswich Road, Pettaugh  
PAU 010

**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

SCCAS Report No. 2011/167

**Client: Mr N. Corke**

Author: Simon Cass

September 2011



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Author: Simon Cass

Illustrator: Simon Cass

Editor: Rhodri Gardner

Report Date: September 2011



## HER Information

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**Report Number:** 2011/167  
**Site Name:** Mission Hall, Ipswich Road, Pettaugh  
**Planning Application No:** 10/2208  
**Date of Fieldwork:** 28/09/2011  
**Grid Reference:** TM 1662 5944  
**Client/Funding Body:** Mr N. Corke  
**Curatorial Officer:** Sarah Poppy  
**Project Officer:** Simon Cass  
**Oasis Reference:** suffolkc1-110956  
**Site Code:** PAU 010

Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:  
<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>

### Disclaimer

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Team alone. Ultimately the need for further work will be determined by the Local Planning Authority and its Archaeological Advisors when a planning application is registered. Suffolk County Council's archaeological contracting services cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to the clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

Prepared By: Simon Cass  
Date: 28/09/2011

Approved By: Rhodri Gardner  
Position: Contracts Manager  
Date:  
Signed:



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## **Summary**

A single trench evaluation was carried out on land at the Old Mission Hall, Pettaugh on the 28th September 2011 prior to the renovation and extension of the existing structure on the site. No artefacts or deposits of archaeological relevance were observed during the course of the evaluation and no further works are recommended as being necessary in order to fulfil the planning condition applied to this development.



## **1. Introduction**

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Planning permission (10/2208) was granted by Mid Suffolk District Council for the residential conversion of and extension to the old Mission Hall, Ipswich Road, Pettaugh. This permission contained a condition relating to archaeology requiring an acceptable programme of archaeological investigation to be undertaken prior to development starting. This was deemed to entail a Historic Building Recording survey (reported separately: Alston 2011) and an archaeological evaluation by trial trench, covered by this report.

## **2. Geology and topography**

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Pettaugh sits at the start of a slight valley feeding a tributary of the River Deben to the east. The development site is located just to the south of the A1120 as it passes through the village, at a height of approximately 55m OD, and on a generally flat area of land and the underlying geology is recorded as being seasonally wet Chalky Till of the Beccles Series. This was observed in the base of the evaluation trench and in test-pits excavated around the site.

## **3. Archaeology and historical background**

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The site lies on the edge of the medieval village Green area, within the historic core of the village. The medieval church of St Catherine (PAU 005) lies some 200m to the north-east, and a post-medieval corn mill (PAU 006) was situated 85m north-east, on the northern side of what is now the A1120. It was believed that there was the potential to discover medieval or post-medieval deposits relating to occupation and/or the development of the village in to its current elongated form within the site.

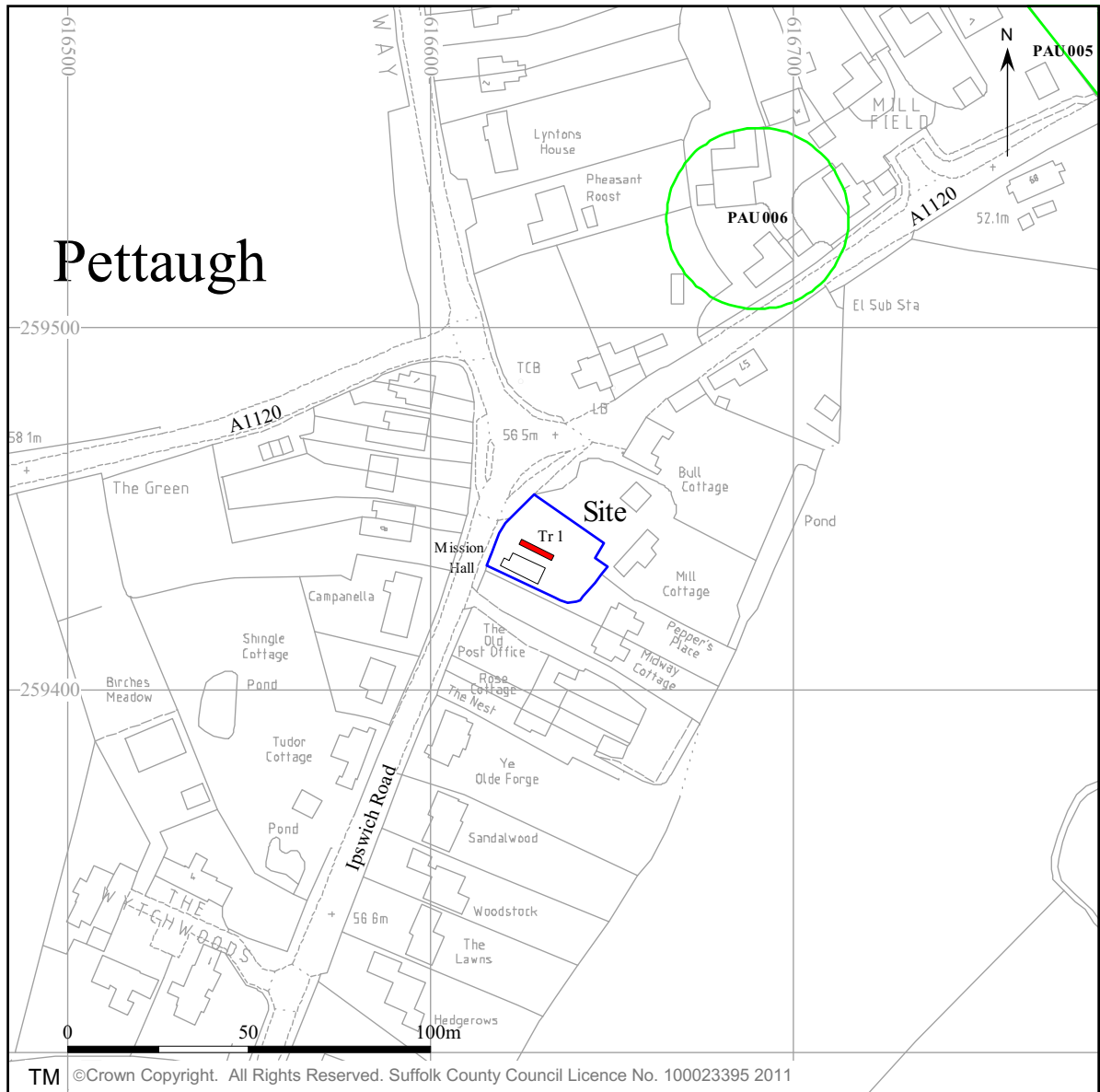
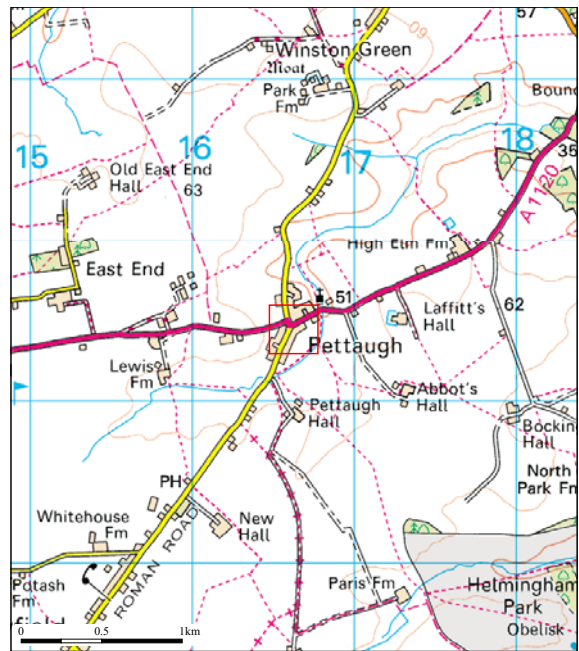
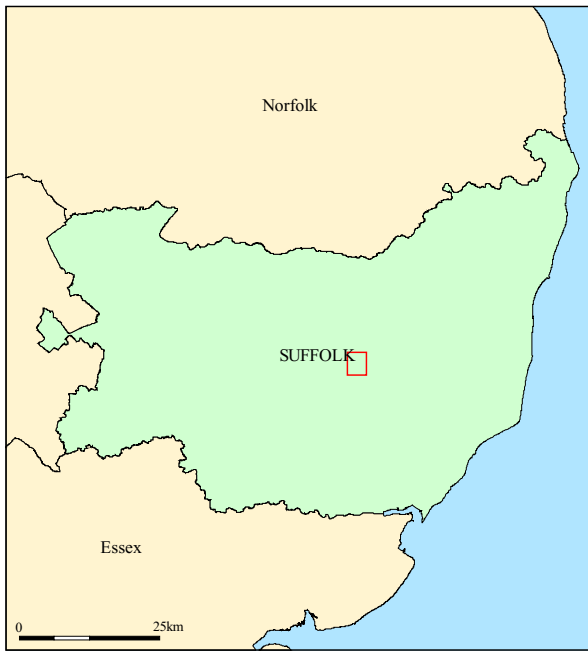


Figure 1. Location map

## **4. Methodology**

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The Brief and Specification (Appendix 1) required that the development area be subject to trial trenching. On this occasion a single trench was required to be excavated within the footprint of the proposed new extension, 1.8m wide and 10m long. The area of the new building had been marked out prior to arrival by the client, and the trench was sited in the centre of this area, orientated approximately east-west.

The trench was excavated by a 360<sup>0</sup> mechanical tracked excavator using a toothless 'ditching' bucket. All machining was under the control and supervision of an experienced archaeologist and overburden was removed until the first archaeological horizon or top of the natural substrate was encountered.

All deposits were recorded using SCCAS pro forma sheets and plans and sections were hand-drawn at 1:50 and 1:20. A photographic record was made using a high resolution digital camera (6.2 megapixels).

A digital copy of the report will be submitted for inclusion on the Archaeology Data Service database (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>) upon completion of the project.

## **5. Results**

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### **5.1 Trench 1**

The trench was 10m long, 1.5m wide and 0.35m deep, orientated approximately east-west through the centre of the new extension footings. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of mid brown clayey silt topsoil with very common roots and bioturbation (ground ivy covered much of the site in this area) above natural pale creamy brown chalky till deposits. Test-pits around the site, excavated prior to the archaeological evaluation, confirmed this as natural geology.

Two modern rubbish pits were observed towards the eastern end of the trench, with visible glass and ceramic building material (CBM) fragments present with their fills, and were not investigated further. A concentration of medium/large stones and CBM

occupying the western half of the trench was interpreted as a modern attempt to consolidate the ground. This layer sat directly above the natural clays.



Plate 1. Trench 1, facing west (2 x 1m scales)

## **6. Finds and environmental evidence**

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No artefacts of archaeological relevance were observed during this evaluation, modern CBM and glass seen in the trench was not retained for further study.

## **7. Discussion**

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The lack of any deposits or artefacts of archaeological relevance within the evaluation trench could be a result of several things; the site could be within the historic Green area rather than on the edge of it and the extreme bioturbation present in the topsoil could have removed any shallow features or the site could have been completely stripped and then re-covered at some point in the past (which could explain the lack of a separate subsoil). If the site was stripped and re-covered, this could explain the relative paucity of building detritus present in the topsoil, since three other structures present on the site were demolished in the early to mid 20th century and more cultural material might be expected to remain within the site.

## **8. Conclusions and recommendations for further work**

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In conclusion, it would appear that either this site was never affected by historic development or that modern activity and biological action has combined to erase any traces of historic occupation on the site. No further works are recommended to be required for the fulfilment of the planning condition attached to this development.

## **9. Archive deposition**

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Paper archive: SCCAS Ipswich

Digital archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Archive\Pettaugh\PAU 010 Evaluation

Digital photographic archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Catalogues\Photos\HLA-HLZ\HLJ

Finds and environmental archive: None.

## **10. Acknowledgements**

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The project was directed and managed by Rhodri Gardner. The evaluation was carried out by Simon Cass from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

Post-excavation graphics were produced by Simon Cass and the report was edited by Rhodri Gardner.

## **11. Bibliography**

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Alston, L., 2011. Mission Hall, Pettaugh, Suffolk An Historical Survey



The Archaeological Service  
9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall  
Bury St Edmunds  
Suffolk  
IP33 2AR

## **Appendix 1. Brief and Specification**

### **Brief and Specification for Archaeological Evaluation**

#### **MISSION HALL, IPSWICH ROAD, PETTAUGH, TM 166 594 (PLANNING PERMISSION 2208/10)**

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

#### **1. The nature of the development and archaeological requirements**

- 1.1 Planning permission has been granted by Mid Suffolk District Council (2208/10) for the residential conversion and extension of the former Mission Hall on Ipswich Road, Pettaugh (TM 166 594) subject to an acceptable programme of archaeological investigation (condition 8). **Please contact the applicant for an accurate plan of the site.**
- 1.2 The Planning Authority has been advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins in accordance with PPS 5 *Planning for the Historic Environment* (Policy HE 12.3) to record and advance understanding of the significance of the heritage asset before it is damaged or destroyed.
- 1.3 The site is located on the east side of the Ipswich Road at c.55.00m OD. The underlying geology of the site comprises seasonally wet deep loam to clay of the Beccles Series.
- 1.4 The proposed extension lies in an area of archaeological interest, recorded in the Historic Environment Record, within the historic settlement core and to the south-west of the medieval church (PAU 005). There is high potential for encountering medieval occupation deposits at this location. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 1.5 **This brief describes part of a two-part programme of work, and should be read in conjunction with the accompanying brief and specification for historic building recording.**
- 1.6 In order to inform the archaeological mitigation strategy, the following work will be required:
  - A linear trenched evaluation is required of the development area.
- 1.7 The results of this evaluation will enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified. Decisions on the need for and scope of any mitigation measures, should there be any archaeological finds of significance, will be based upon the results of the evaluation and will be the subject of an additional specification.
- 1.8 All arrangements for the field evaluation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated with the commissioning body.
- 1.9 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.

- 1.10 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute for Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the WSI as satisfactory. The WSI will provide the basis for measurable standards and will be used to satisfy the requirements of the planning condition.
- 1.11 Neither this specification nor the WSI, however, is a sufficient basis for the discharge of the planning condition relating to archaeological investigation. Only the full implementation of the scheme, both completion of fieldwork and reporting based on the approved WSI, will enable SCCAS/CT to advise St Edmundsbury Borough Council that the condition has been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged.
- 1.12 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination. The developer should be aware that investigative sampling to test for contamination is likely to have an impact on any archaeological deposit which exists; proposals for sampling should be discussed with the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of SCC (SCCAS/CT) before execution.
- 1.13 The responsibility for identifying any constraints on field-work, e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c., ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such constraints or imply that the target area is freely available.
- 1.14 Any changes to the specifications that the project archaeologist may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated directly to SCCAS/CT and the client for approval.

## **2. Brief for the Archaeological Evaluation**

- 2.1 Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.
- 2.2 Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- 2.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- 2.4 Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- 2.5 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.6 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2), all stages will follow a process of assessment and justification before proceeding to the next phase of the project. Field evaluation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential. Any further excavation required as mitigation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential, analysis and final report preparation may follow.

Each stage will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design; this document covers only the evaluation stage.

- 2.7 The developer or his archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT (address as above) five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored.
- 2.8 If the approved evaluation design is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected. Alternatively the presence of an archaeological deposit may be presumed, and untested areas included on this basis when defining the final mitigation strategy.
- 2.9 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

### **3. Specification: Trenched Evaluation**

- 3.1 A single linear trial trench, 10.00m long x 1.80m wide, is to be excavated across the length of the extension.
- 3.2 If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' 1.50m wide minimum must be used. A scale plan showing the proposed location of the trial trench should be included in the WSI and the detailed trench design must be approved by SCCAS/CT before field work begins.
- 3.3 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine with a back-acting arm and fitted with a toothless bucket, down to the interface layer between topsoil and subsoil or other visible archaeological surface. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.
- 3.4 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.
- 3.5 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation; that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled. For guidance:

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

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

- 3.6 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.
- 3.7 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. The contractor shall show what provision has been made for environmental assessment of the site and must provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from Helen Chappell, English

Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.

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

#### **4. General Management**

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

- 4.6 The Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

## 5. Report Requirements

- 5.1 An archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1).
- 5.2 The report should reflect the aims of the WSI.
- 5.3 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 5.4 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given. No further site work should be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established.
- 5.5 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.
- 5.6 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including an assessment of palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 5.7 The results of the surveys should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the County Historic Environment Record (HER).
- 5.8 A copy of the Specification should be included as an appendix to the report.
- 5.9 The project manager must consult the County HER Officer (Dr Colin Pendleton) to obtain a HER number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.
- 5.10 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*.
- 5.11 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner/developer to the deposition of the full site archive, and transfer of title, with the intended archive depository before the fieldwork commences. If this is not achievable for all or parts of the finds archive then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, scientific analysis) as appropriate.
- 5.12 If the County Store is not the intended depository, the project manager should ensure that a duplicate copy of the written archive is deposited with the County HER.
- 5.13 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 should be stated in the WSI, for approval. 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.

- 5.14 If the County Store is the intended location of the archive, the project manager should consult the SCCAS Archive Guidelines 2010 and also the County Historic Environment Record Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive. 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.
- 5.15 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure the proper deposition (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>) with ADS or another appropriate archive depository.
- 5.16 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project (whether it be evaluation or excavation) a summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology*, must be prepared. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 5.17 An unbound hardcopy of the evaluation report, clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and SCCAS/CT.
- Following acceptance, two hard copies of the report should be submitted to SCCAS/CT together with a digital .pdf version.
- 5.18 Where appropriate, a digital vector trench plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the County HER. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.
- 5.19 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 5.20 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the County HER, and a copy should be included with the draft report for approval. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

Specification by: Sarah Poppy

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Email: sarah.poppy@suffolk.gov.uk

Date: 07 September 2011

Reference: SpecEval\_PettaughMissionHall\_2011

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

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







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