

Land North of Lion Road, Glemsford CP  
School New Playing Field, Glemsford  
GFD 044

**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

SCCAS Report No. 2011/173

**Client: SCC Corporate Property**

Author: Simon Cass

October 2011



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School New Playing Field, Glemsford  
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SCCAS Report No. 2011/173

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Report Date: October 2011



## HER Information

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**Report Number:** 2011/173

**Site Name:** Land north of Lion Road, Glemsford CP School  
New Playing Field, Glemsford

**Planning Application No:** Pre-planning

**Date of Fieldwork:** 03-04/10/2011

**Grid Reference:** TL 8263 4820

**Client/Funding Body:** SCC Property Management

**Client Reference:** -

**Curatorial Officer:** Jess Tipper

**Project Officer:** Simon Cass

**Oasis Reference:** suffolkc1-111002

**Site Code:** GFD 044

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: October 2011

Approved By: Rhodri Gardner

Position: Contracts Manager

Date:

Signed:



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

## **Summary**

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on the 3rd and 4th of October 2011 in advance of a planning application to change part of an active arable field into a playing field for the adjacent school (Glemsford CP School). Six trenches were excavated, set out in a standard grid pattern, in order to assess the archaeological potential of the site and provide information regarding that potential when the planning application is considered. A small amount of archaeological features were identified, one pit of Roman date, a small undated gully and a post-medieval/modern pit. In addition significant quantities of unstratified finds were located within the ploughsoil matrix covering the site, with Roman pottery being identified in most of the trenches, and some Late Bronze Age/early-middle Iron Age pottery being retrieved from Trench 4.












Further works are expected to be necessary, although at the time of writing no sufficiently detailed plan or elevation detail of the proposed development is available in order to arrive at a specific recommendation. In this case, it is recommended that an Archaeological Impact Assessment or similar be prepared once the developer has specific proposals regarding the depth and locations of any truncation, and a methodology of construction available for inspection.

# Drawing Conventions

## Plans

- Limit of Excavation 
- Features 
- Break of Slope 
- Features - Conjectured 
- Natural Features 
- Sondages/Machine Strip 
- Intrusion/Truncation 
- Illustrated Section  S.14
- Cut Number 
- Archaeological Features 

## Sections

- Limit of Excavation 
- Cut 
- Modern Cut 
- Cut - Conjectured 
- Deposit Horizon 
- Deposit Horizon - Conjectured 
- Intrusion/Truncation 
- Top of Natural 
- Top Surface 
- Break in Section 
- Cut Number 
- Deposit Number 0007
- Ordnance Datum  $\overline{\overline{18.45\text{m OD}}}$

## **1. Introduction**

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An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land north of Lion Road, adjacent to the site of Glemsford CP School, in early October 2011, prior to a planning application being put forward to create a new school playing field on the site.

## **2. Geology and topography**

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Glemsford lies alongside the River Glem to the east, on the shoulder of the river valley with good views to the surrounding area, while the site itself lies just off the hill crest, between 75m and 80m OD (rising to the north-west). The site also sits astride a boundary in the underlying geology, with chalky till deposits to the south and glaciofluvial drift (deep loamy formations) to the north. This would explain the very changeable natural present in the trenches. At present the site is in use as arable farmland.

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

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The site lies on the edge of the believed medieval town core of Glemsford (GFD 038), and the site of a medieval Priests College (GFD 002) is recorded some 200m west of the site. Find spots in the area of Glemsford include a Mesolithic axe (GFD 007) 220m north-east and a rare example of a Roman lantern (GFD 036) was found in the vicinity of the town during a metal-detectorist rally in 2009. A local metal detectorist club has surveyed fields around the town on several occasions, with locations of find spots, including Roman coins, brooches and pottery recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme on the Historic Environment Record maintained by Suffolk County Council Conservation Team.

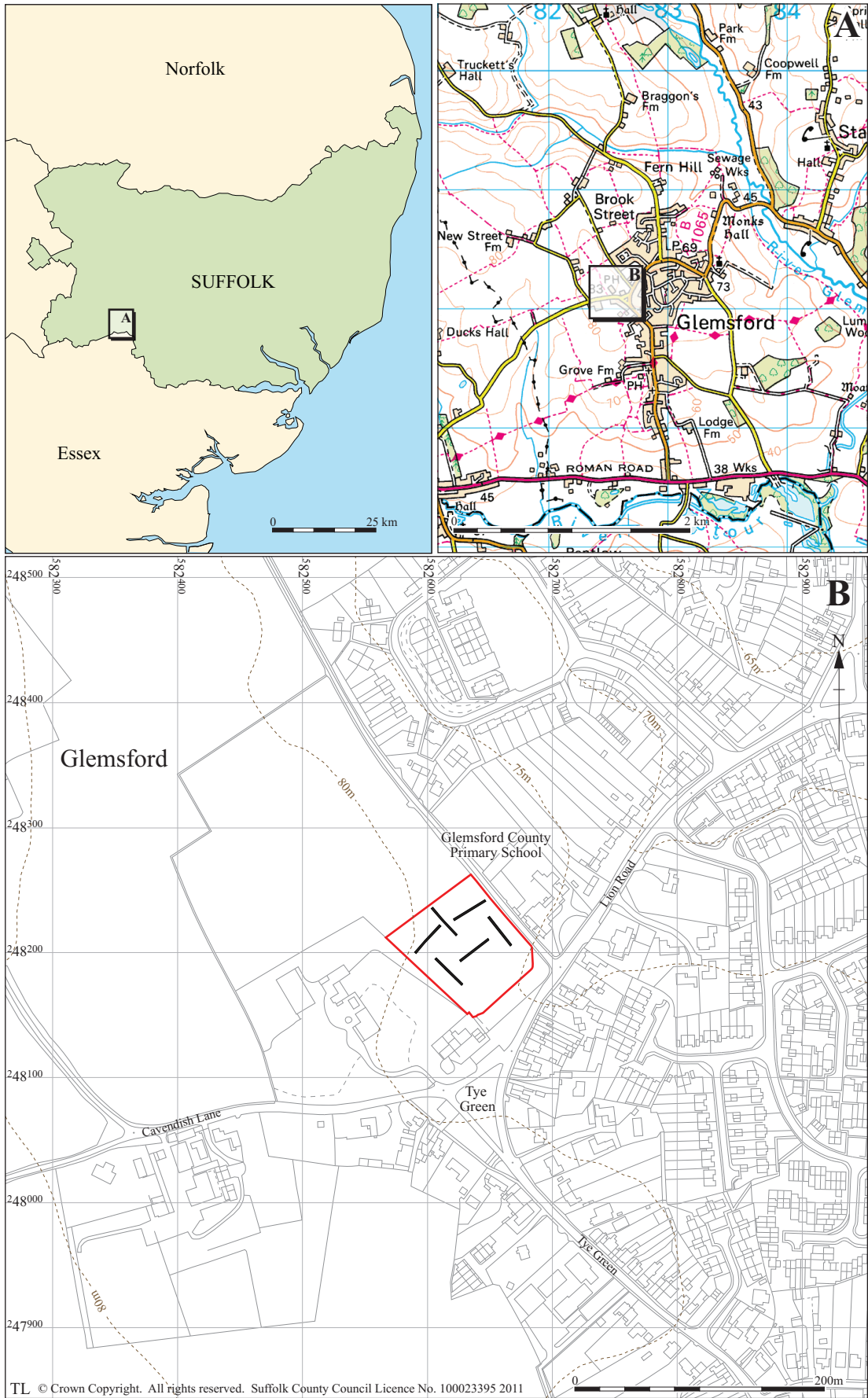


Figure 1. Location map, showing development area (red) and trenches (black)

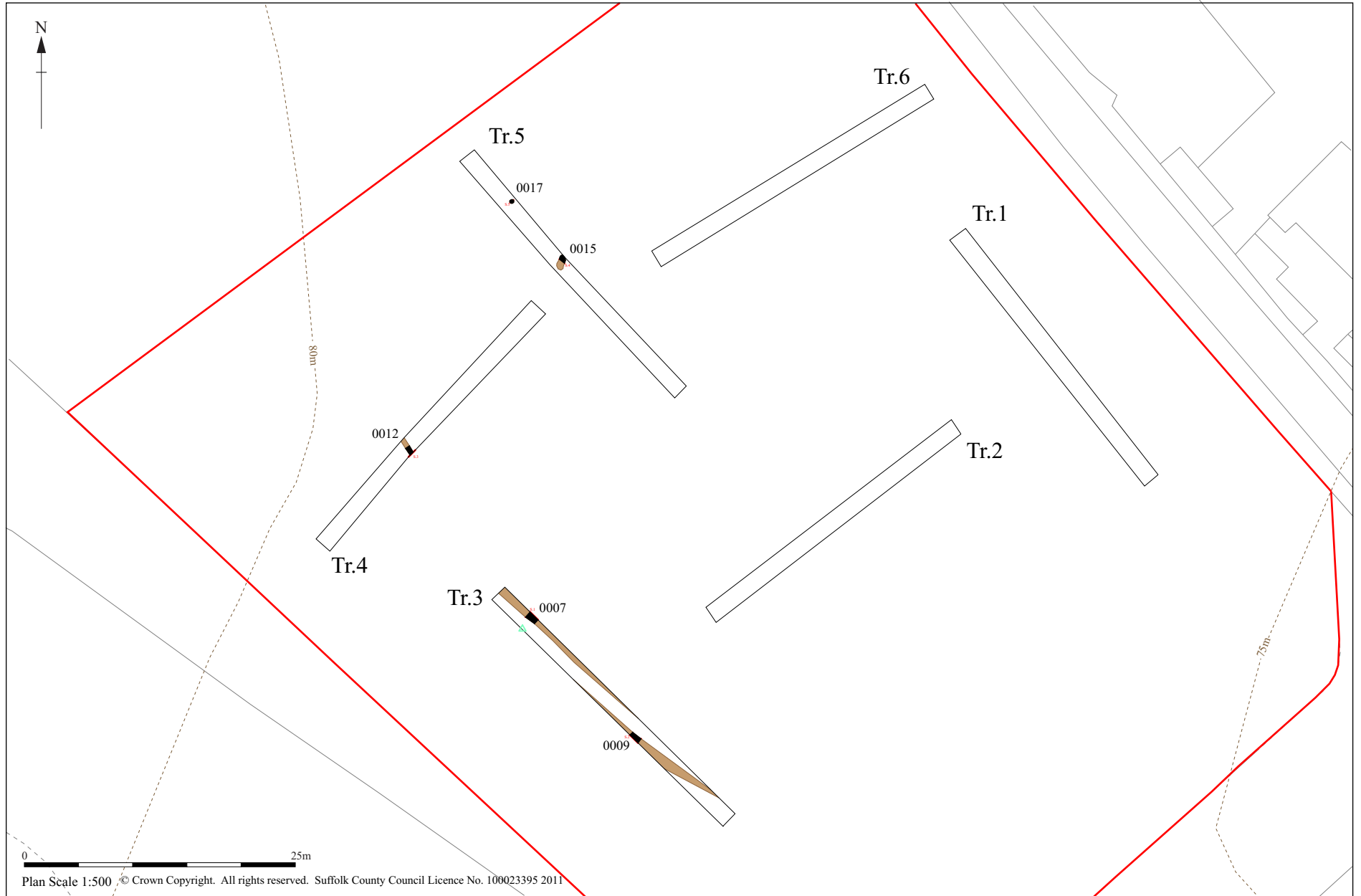


Figure 2. Trench details

## **4. Methodology**

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The Brief and Specification (Appendix 1) required that the proposed development area be subject to trial trenching. On this occasion six trenches were requested to be excavated across the development area, 1.8m wide and 30m long. The trenches were located and levels were taken of features using a Leica GPS system.

The trenching was carried out 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 recorded on a whole-site database during post-excavation archiving (see Appendix 2 for a full context listing) and plans and sections were hand-drawn at 1:50 and 1:20. A photographic record was made using a high resolution digital SLR camera (6.2 megapixels).

The area of the trenches was scanned with a metal detector although no metallic finds were identified in this manner.

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**

This trench was 30m long, 1.6m wide and up to 0.68m deep, orientated approximately north-west/south-east (Plate 1). The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.35m of mid/dark brown clayey silt topsoil with moderate flints and stones over 0.38m of mid/light brown silty clay subsoil (colluvial deposit) with moderate mixed sub angular and rounded pebbles. This sealed mottled orange/pale brown very fine (sun-baked) clay/silt with occasional gravel patches, interpreted as the top of natural geological deposits. No features of archaeological relevance were observed in this trench, and



roots from the trees to the east were noted frequently along the length of the trench. The finds recovered were entirely from the ploughsoil layer and were collected during spoil heap observation.



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

## 5.2 Trench 2

This trench was 30m long, 1.6m wide and up to 0.56m deep, orientated approximately north-east/south-west (Plate 2). The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.36m of topsoil above up to 0.2m of subsoil/colluvium. This sealed natural geological deposits similar to those in Trench 1. No features of archaeological relevance were observed in this trench, although the finds recovered from the spoil heap appeared to be mainly from an area towards the centre of the trench.



Plate 2. Trench 2, facing north-east (2 x 1m scales)

### 5.3 Trench 3

This trench was 30m long, 1.6m wide and up to 0.58m deep, orientated approximately north-west/south-east (Plate 3). The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.38m of topsoil over 0.2m of subsoil, with the natural geology having a greater amount of gravel and larger gravel patches. Two features identified in this trench are believed to be wheel-ruts, running in parallel and aligned approximately west-northwest/east-southeast. No finds were recovered from either feature, though their general character is suggestive of wheel-rutting, with irregular flattish bases, moderately steep sides and a regular distance between them of c.1.2m.



Plate 3. Trench 3, facing north-west (2 x 1m scales)

Linear feature 0007 entered the trench at its north-western end, and continued along the trench for some 15m before exiting on the eastern side. It had a shallow, slightly irregular profile with moderately sloping sides to an irregular flattish base and was filled with a mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions (Plate 4). No finds were encountered from this feature.





Plate 4. Linear feature 0007 and trench section, facing north-east (1m scale)

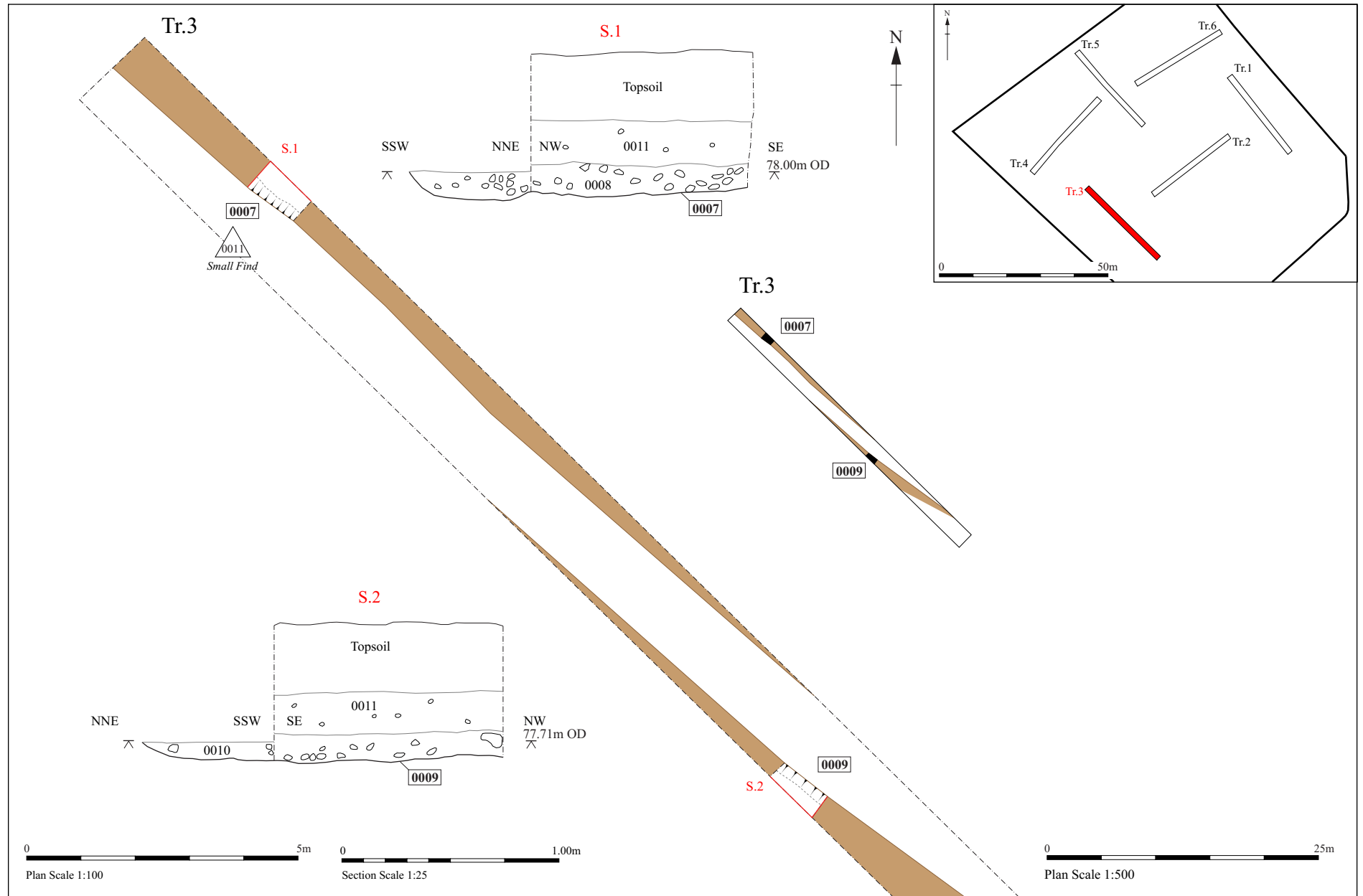


Figure 3. Trench 3 plan and sections

## 5.4 Trench 4

This trench was 30m long, 1.6m wide and up to 0.45m deep, orientated approximately north-east/south-west. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above 0.15m of subsoil. The natural geology in this trench was a mottled grey/orangey brown silty clay with infrequent gravel patches. A single feature was observed in this trench, consisting of a narrow and shallow linear gully, orientated approximately north-south.

Gully 0012 was 0.42m wide and 0.05m deep, with concave sides to a shallow flattish base (Fig. 4, Plate 5). It was filled with a mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional small rounded and sub-angular flints and very occasional charcoal flecks. While some fragments of pottery were noted in the fill of this feature, they were too badly degraded to recover and the feature remains undated.



Plate 5. Gully 0012, facing south-east (0.3m scale)

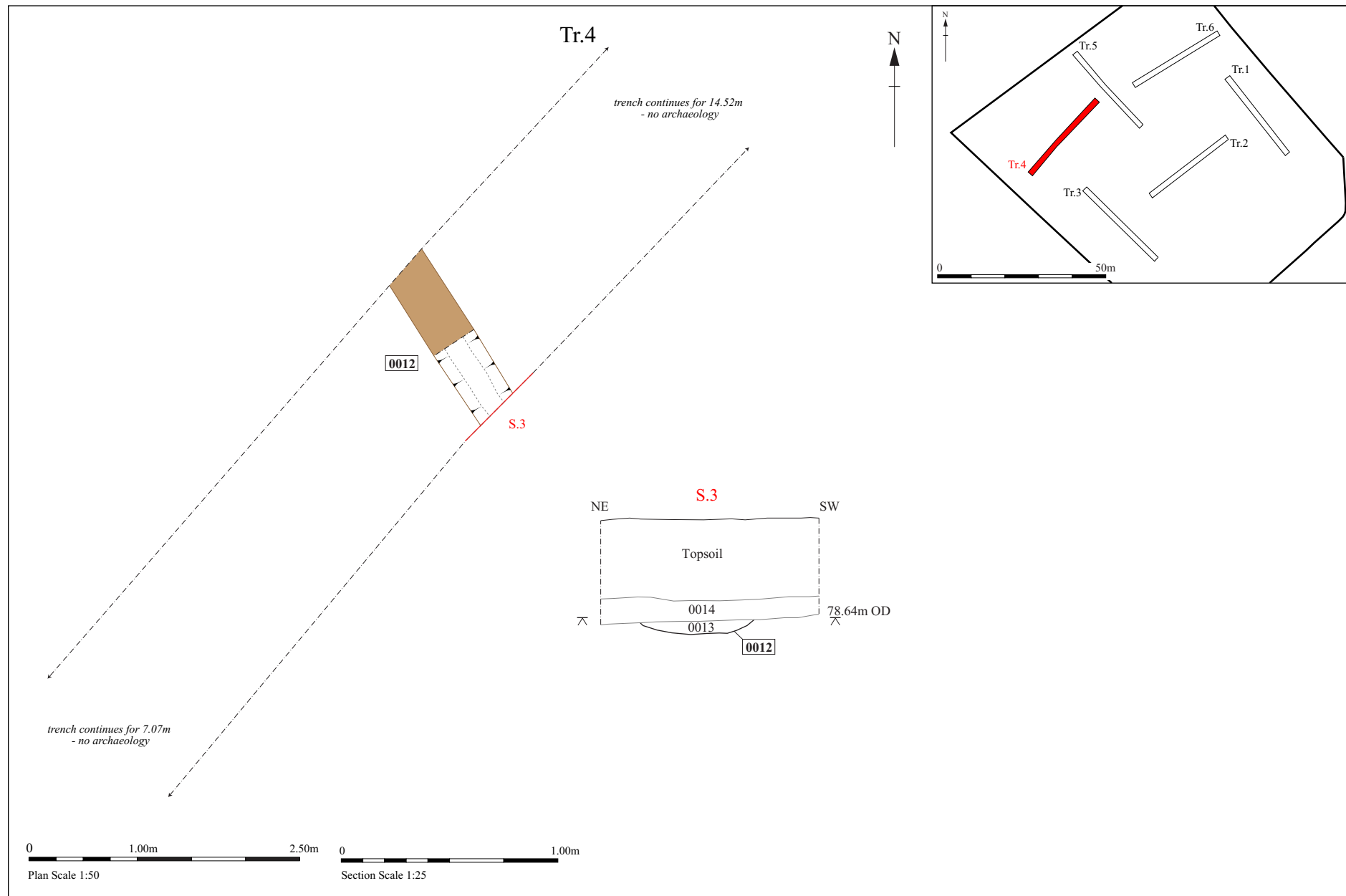


Figure 4. Trench 4 plan and section



## 5.5 Trench 5

This trench was 30m long, 1.6m wide and up to 0.4m deep, orientated approximately north-west/south-east. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.28m of topsoil above 0.12m of subsoil. This overlay natural mid orangey brown clay, moderate flint outcroppings and gravel patches. Two pits were observed in this trench; 0015 and 0017 (Fig. 5). Several unstratified artefacts came from the area around this pit during stripping, including a large piece of *mortaria*,

Pit 0015 was an oblongated pit with steep sloping sides to a shallow concave base; 1.2m long, 0.6m wide and up to 0.15m deep (Plate 6). It was filled with a firm (sun-baked) mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate angular flint and stone inclusions. Pottery within the feature was found to be of Roman date, probably of 1st–2nd century date.



Plate 6. Pit 0015, facing south-west (0.3m scale)

Pit 0017 was a circular feature, 0.44m in diameter and 0.12m deep, with vertical sides to a flat base (Plate 7). It was filled with a mottled mid greyish brown sandy silty clay and orange sandy clay flecking and contained charcoal flecks, occasional small angular-rounded flint and stone pebbles, small coal-like fragments, possible slag fragments and very occasional calcined bone fragments. A concentration of modern glassware was identified on the northern edge, with a small number of shards present elsewhere in the feature, and it appears that the feature is of post-medieval/modern



date with residual finds from the Roman and later Bronze Age/early-middle Iron Age present as well.



Plate 7. Pit 0017, facing north-west (0.3m scale)

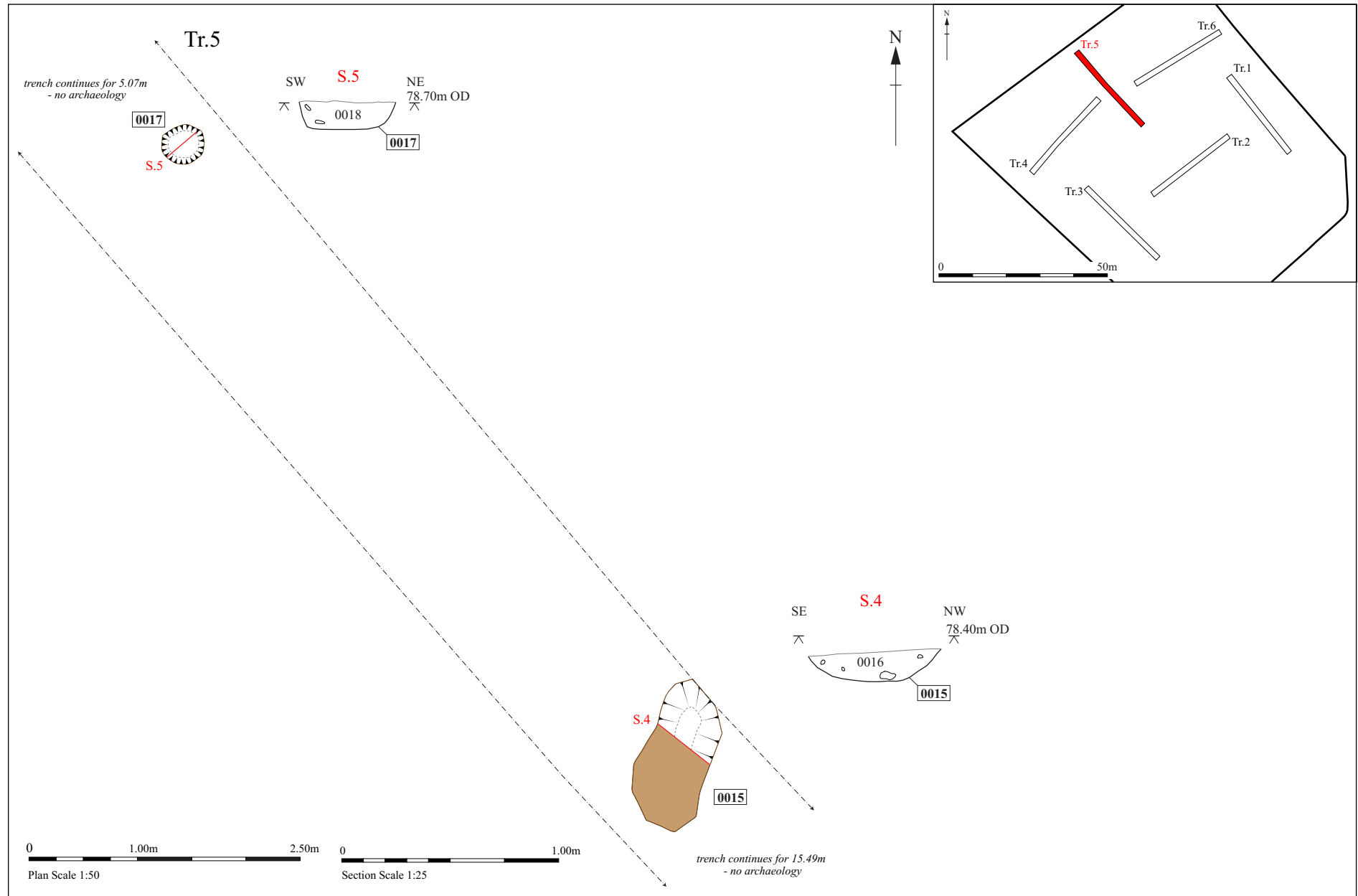


Figure 5. Trench 5 plan and sections

## 5.6 Trench 6

This trench was 30m long, 1.6m wide and up to 0.4m deep, orientated approximately north-east/south-west (Plate 8). The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.26m of topsoil over 0.14m of subsoil. The natural geology in this trench was very flinty mid orangey/brown clay. No features of archaeological relevance were recorded in this trench, and several significantly-sized roots were encountered in the easternmost 2m of the trench.



Plate 8. Trench 6, facing east (2 x 1m scales)

## 6. Finds and environmental evidence

Andy Fawcett

### 6.1 Introduction

Finds were retrieved from eight contexts, most of which were unstratified from Trenches 1-8 (0001, 0002, 0003, 0004 and 0005). The remainder are made up of one subsoil context from Trench 3 (0011) and two pit fills (0016 and 0018) from Trench 5.

Context	Pottery		Worked flint		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
	No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g		
0001	3	27	3	19	1 @ 11g Lava quern stone	Roman & 16th-18th C
0002	12	69	2	33	1 @ 5 CBM	2nd C+ Roman LBA- EIA/MIA
0003	35	379				
0004	1	3				
0005	7	294	1	11	1 @ 10g Burnt flint	2nd-E3rd C Roman (looks 2nd C+)
0011	24	538				
0016	13	53	1	14	2 @ 5g Fired clay, 9 @ 12 g Slag, 2 @ 3g Burnt stone , 3 @ 17g Shell, 1 @ 1 Animal bone, 5 @ 3g Charcoal, 7 @ 3g Glass, 2 @ 3 Iron nails	Roman LBA- EIA/MIA & ?Early Roman
0018	2	2				
<b>Total</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>1365</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>77</b>		

Table 1. Finds quantities

### 6.2 The Pottery

#### *Introduction*

A total of ninety-five sherds of pottery with a combined weight of 1363g was recorded in eight contexts. With the exception of eight sherds (37g) in four contexts, the entire assemblage is dated to the Roman period. The overall condition of the pottery may be described as between abraded and slightly abraded. The diagnostic element of the assemblage (rims and bases) is very poor. The average sherd weight is 14.34g, however this figure is distorted by the high number of storage jar sherds present within the Roman assemblage.

#### *Methodology*

All of the pottery has been examined at x20 vision and assigned to fabric groups. Codes have been assigned to these groups using the Suffolk fabric series (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service) and form types (where possible) have been

catalogued using the Suffolk form type series (unpub). These systems have been supplemented by the use of Going's Chelmsford type series (1987) for the Roman pottery. A full contextual breakdown of all of these divisions forms part of the site archive and a version of this can also be seen in Appendix 3.

### ***Prehistoric***

The eight sherds of prehistoric pottery (25g) were recorded in two unstratified contexts (0003 and 0004) as well as pit fills 0016 and 0018 (Sample 1). The sherds only display slight abrasion (except for the sherd in Sample 1 which is very abraded, <1g) and none of them are diagnostic. In three instances the sherds occur alongside Roman pottery (0003, 0016 and 0018) and as a single sherd in 0004. The largest number of sherds were noted in pit fill 0016 (5 sherds @ 16g).

The sherds in 0003, 0004 and 0018 are all tempered with abundant ill-sorted flint (HMF) and are dated from the Late Bronze Age to Early/Mid Iron Age. Pit fill 0016 also has four sherds that contain flint. However in this case the flint, although ill-sorted, is sparse and small within the quartz dominated fabric (HMSF) which is more likely dated from the Early to Middle Iron Age. The remaining sherd is in a sand and organic tempered fabric and is dated to the Iron Age period. The abraded HMF sherd in pit fill 0018 (Sample 1) is residual (<0.5g). It is exceptionally abraded and occurs alongside an equally abraded and small Roman sherd as well as post-medieval glass and iron nails.

### ***Roman***

A total of eighty-seven sherds of Roman pottery with a weight of 1327g was recovered from seven contexts. Most of these contexts are unstratified (0001, 0002, 0003 and 0005), however Roman pottery was also noted in the subsoil context 0011 as well as pit fills 0016 and 0018. A full breakdown of the fabrics and their quantities can be seen in Table 2.

Fabric	No	% sherd count	Wgt/g	% weight	Eve	% Eve
Regional coarsewares						
COLB	4	5	273	20.5	-	-
Coarsewares						
BUF	1	1	1	Present	-	-
RX	2	2	8	0.5	-	-
BSW	18	20	127	9.5	0.02	8
GMG	13	15	98	7.5	0.06	24
GMB	5	6	30	2.5	-	-
GX	12	14	55	4	0.17	68
STOR	32	37	735	55.5	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1327</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 2. Roman pottery quantities

The Roman pottery assemblage is entirely made up of coarsewares of which only one is a regional import. This is Colchester buff ware (COLB) which is present in the subsoil context 0011 (4 sherds @ 273g). All of the sherds join and belong to the body of a *mortaria* which is dated from the 2nd to early 3rd century. The *mortaria* surface is gritted with white/grey flint and occasional quartz pieces.

The remaining coarseware assemblage is principally made up of pottery fabrics that are likely to originate in Suffolk, Grey Micaceous Reduced ware (GMG), Miscellaneous Sandy Grey wares (GX) and Black-surfaced/Romanising Grey wares (BSW). Some of the latter fabrics appear to have similarities to those found in Essex (Going 1987, 9) which is not surprising given the site's close proximity to the modern border.

The form assemblage contains only jar rims. None of these can be identified accurately beyond the 4.4/5 range as they are too small; the rim shapes are also in a long-lived style. The unstratified pottery from Trench 3 (0003) contains twelve fragments (185g) of storage jar (STOR), most of which join. Fragments from the same vessel were also present in the subsoil of the same trench (0011). These are all body sherds and not closely datable, however the fabric is very similar to GMG, with common silver mica and black iron ore inclusions being prominent. Only three body sherds exhibited decoration, rouletting (0003 and 0016) and notches (0016).

Although the Roman assemblage is poorly dated, the range of fabrics, and in particular the presence of BSW, may indicate that the pottery is more likely dated from the first half of the Roman period rather than later. The single abraded BSW sherd (Sample 1) in pit fill 0018 (<0.5g) is residual (it occurs alongside post-medieval glass and iron nails).

## ***Post-medieval***

The unstratified context 0001 contains a single sherd (13g) of Glazed Red Earthenware (GRE) dated from the 16th to 18th century. Also present within this context are two sherds of Roman pottery.

### **6.3 Ceramic building materials (CBM)**

A single fragment of very abraded CBM (5g) was recorded in the unstratified context 0003 in Trench 3. None of the surfaces are intact. The fabric is bright orange and is medium sandy with clay pellets (mscp) and probably dated to the Roman period. The fragment is accompanied by Roman pottery and worked flint.

### **6.4 Fired clay**

Two small and abraded pieces of fired clay were recorded in pit fill 0016 (5g). The fragments are both oxidised and medium sandy with sparse ill-sorted calcitic type voids. One of the pieces exhibits a buff flat-irregular surface. Roman pottery is also present within the context.

### **6.5 Worked flint**

Justine Biddle

Six pieces of struck flint were recovered from four contexts. The assemblage was recorded by type and other descriptive comments about appearance, condition and technology were noted and date ranges have been suggested. Descriptions are included in Table 3.

<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Patinated</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Date</b>
0001	Flake	1	No	Thin flake with negative flake scars on the dorsal surface. Limited use-wear/retouch on both edges	Later Prehistoric
0001	Flake	1	No	Small thin flake, broken at the distal end. Negative flake scars present on the dorsal surface. Limited evidence of use-wear/retouch on one edge.	Later Prehistoric
0001	Retouched flake	1	No	Small thin flake with evidence of retouch on one edge.	Later Prehistoric
0003	Flake	1	No	Thick flake with a hinge fracture at the distal end. No evidence of use-wear or retouch.	Later Prehistoric
0005	Retouched flake	1	No	Thick flake with negative flake scars on the dorsal surface. One edge has been extensively retouched, possibly for use as a scraper.	Later Prehistoric
0018	Utilised fragment	1	Yes	Natural flint, but which has evidence of limited use-wear/retouch on one edge.	Later Prehistoric

Table 3. Flint descriptions

The assemblage consists mainly of flakes (five), several of which have been utilised in some way, either by purposeful retouch or some form of use which has left marks on an edge. The utilised fragment may be older than the other pieces as this is patinated, as is the retouched area on its edge. However, it is possible that this has just been affected by different taphonomic factors post-deposition.

Unfortunately the assemblage is very small and none of the pieces are definitively diagnostic of any period. As they are all residual, it is uncertain whether they are all contemporary, so a general later Prehistoric (Neolithic-Iron Age) date has been assigned to them.

## **6.6 Burnt flint/stone**

Two contexts contained burnt flint/stone (3 fragments @ 13g), the unstratified context 0005 and pit fill 0018. The unstratified fragment is light grey whereas the other two pieces are variable in colour. Context 0005 also contains Roman pottery as well as one worked flint dated to the later prehistoric period. Fill 0018 also contains worked flint, slag, burnt possible animal bone and oyster shell.

## **6.7 Lava quern stone**

A single small and abraded fragment of lava quern stone was noted in the unstratified context 0001 in Trench 1. No areas of surface could be observed on the piece. The fragment is probably Rhenish lavastone, a type of stone imported to East Anglia during the Roman period and then from the Middle Saxon through to the post-medieval period. This context also contains Roman and post-medieval pottery as well as worked flint.

## **6.8 Slag**

All nine of the slag fragments were recovered from pit fill 0018 (12g). The fragments are mostly quite small and magnetic. However, other fragments probably relate to fuel waste. The context also contains charcoal, burnt bone and stone as well as worked flint and shell.

## **6.9 Iron nails**

Two post-medieval iron nail fragments were recorded in pit fill 0018 (Sample 1). Post-medieval glass, slag, charcoal, burnt animal bone and flint as well residual prehistoric and Roman pottery are also present in the context.



## **6.10 Glass**

Seven glass fragments (3g) from a drinking vessel, dated to the late post-medieval period, were noted in pit fill 0018 (Sample 1). The pit also contained residual prehistoric and Roman pottery as well as slag, charcoal, iron nails and burnt animal bone.

## **6.11 Faunal remains**

A single small and worn fragment of burnt animal bone was recorded in pit fill 0018 (<1g). The piece is too small and abraded to be identified to a species. The context also contains worked flint, slag, shell and charcoal.

## **6.12 Shell**

Three pieces of oyster shell were noted in pit fill 0018. These are accompanied by worked flint, burnt stone, slag, burnt animal bone and charcoal.

## **6.13 Charcoal**

Pit fill 0018 contained five very small and abraded pieces of charcoal (3g). Residual prehistoric and Roman pottery are present within the fill and other finds include worked flint, burnt stone, slag, burnt animal bone and shell.

## **6.14 Discussion of material evidence**

The larger part of the finds assemblage has been recorded in the unstratified and subsoil contexts. Although a wide range of finds are noted, it is Roman pottery that dominates the collection.

A small amount of residual later prehistoric flint and pottery are present in both unstratified contexts and pit fill 0018. Metal detected finds (listed on the HER) a short distance to the west of the current site, also indicate later prehistoric activity in the area, with the presence an Early Bronze Age axe tip and a copper alloy Iron Age brooch.

Although the Roman assemblage has been chiefly recorded in the unstratified contexts of Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5 and is often not closely datable, it clearly demonstrates consistent Roman activity in or around the immediate area of the current site. Indeed, also listed on the HER in the Tye Green area, are several metal detected Roman coins, an almost complete lantern as well as *tegula* and *imbrex* fragments. The assemblage provides new and important dating evidence for Roman activity in Glemsford, although

more evidence would be needed to ascertain the nature and status of this activity within the chronology of the Roman occupation.

Pit fill 0018 and the unstratified context 0001 provided the only material evidence for post-medieval activity on the site. Many of the finds within pit fill 0018 displayed burning; charcoal and slag are also present within the context.

## **7. Discussion**

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The presence of apparent wheel-rutting in Trench 3 is to be expected, with a field entrance to the south of this trench, in a similar direction to the two linear features encountered – repeated crossing in this area would be more likely to leave ruts than elsewhere in the field. The presence of large amounts of unstratified pottery ties in with the nearby presence of Roman structures, suggesting both historic disposal, manuring and plough-movement have spread related artefacts across this area, and the size of some pieces suggest that they may have been originally deposited fairly close to their location at the time of discovery. The presence of a single pit of archaeological relevance further suggests that there may be incised features of some antiquity within the site, also possibly relating to the occupation and use of this land during the Roman period.

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

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In conclusion, the results of the archaeological investigation suggest that this area was likely subject to diffuse activity during the Roman period, with a significant amount of pottery being transported about the site by plough but little in the way of definable cut features. Given its proximity to known Roman structural remains, the potential exists that more features may be present within the area, necessitating further archaeological intervention, but the intended use of the site as a school field may not involve any damaging truncation of the site. An archaeological impact assessment is recommended as an appropriate next step, when plans for the development of the site are available as well as information on proposed formation depths and construction methods, with the potential for area excavation or a strip and record methodology to be implemented prior to the development of the site.

## 9. Archive deposition

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Paper archive: SCCAS Ipswich

Digital archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Archive\Glemsford\GFD 044 Evaluation

Digital photographic archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Catalogues\Photos\HLA-HLZ\HLJ\_75-96

Finds and environmental archive: **H / 80 / 3**.

## 10. Acknowledgements

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The evaluation was carried out by Simon Cass, Simon Picard and Steve Manthorpe from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

The project was managed and directed by Rhodri Gardner, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

The post-excavation was managed by Richenda Goffin. Finds processing and the production of site plans and sections were carried out by Tim Browne, Jonathan Van Jennians, Anna West and Crane Begg respectively, and the specialist finds report by Andy Fawcett. Other specialist identification and advice was provided by Justine Biddle. The report was checked by Richenda Goffin.

## 11. Bibliography

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Going, C. J., 1987, *The mansion and other sites in the south-eastern sector of Caesaromagus: the Roman pottery*, Chelmsford Archaeological Trust Report 3.2, Counc. Brit. Archaeol. Rep. 62



## Appendix 1. Brief and Specification

**Brief and Specification for Archaeological Evaluation****LAND NORTH OF LION ROAD, GLEMSFORD**

***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 is to be sought by Suffolk County Council for a new playing field on land to the west of Glemsford County Primary School, Glemsford (TL 826 481). Please contact the developer for an accurate plan of the proposed works.
- 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 area of the proposed sports field (0.45 ha. in size) is located on the north side of Lion Road (west of Shepherds Lane). The site is situated on the interface between glaciofluvial drift (deep loam) to the north and chalky till (deep clay of the Hanslope series) to the south, at c.75–80.00m OD.
- 1.4 This area lies in an area of archaeological importance, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record, within a historic settlement core and on the edge of a medieval green. There is a strong possibility that medieval, and possibly earlier, occupation deposits will be encountered at this location. Any groundworks causing significant ground disturbance have the potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 1.5 There is a strong possibility that below-ground heritage assets of archaeological interest will be defined at this location, given the proximity to known remains. Any groundworks causing significant ground disturbance have potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 1.6 In order to inform the archaeological 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 further investigation, 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). 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 Suffolk County Council that the condition has been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged (assuming planning permission is forthcoming).
- 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 To collate and assess the existing information regarding archaeological and historical remains within and adjacent to the site. It is important that a sufficiently large area around the target area is studied in order to give adequate context; in this instance an area with boundaries 150m beyond the parcel boundaries will be the minimum appropriate.
- 2.2 Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.
- 2.3 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.
- 2.4 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- 2.5 Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- 2.6 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.7 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.

- 2.8 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.
- 2.9 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 strategy.
- 2.10 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

### **3. Specification: Desk Based Assessment**

- 3.1 The assessment shall be undertaken by a professional team of field archaeologists. The archaeological contractor is expected to follow the Code of Conduct of the Institute for Archaeologists.
- 3.2 Collation and assessment of the County Historic Environment Record to identify known sites and to assess the potential of the application area.
- 3.3 Collation and assessment of all cartographic sources relevant to the site to identify historic landuse, the siting of old boundaries and any earlier buildings. Copies of old maps should be included in the report.
- 3.4 Assess the potential for historic documentation that would contribute to the archaeological investigation of the site.
- 3.5 Re-assessment of aerial photographic evidence and, where relevant, a replotting of archaeological and topographic information by a suitably qualified specialist with relevant experience at a scale of 1:2500. It should be possible to obtain residual errors of less than  $\pm 2\text{m}$ . Rectification of extant mapped features such as field boundaries and buildings shall be undertaken in order to give additional indication of accuracy of the transcription.
- 3.6 Examination of available geotechnical information to assess the condition and status of buried deposits and to identify local geological conditions. Relevant geotechnical data should be included as appendices to the report.
- 3.7 Ascertain whether there are other constraints on the site (e.g. SSSI, County Wildlife Site, AONB, etc).
- 3.8 A site visit to determine any constraints to archaeological survival.

### **4. Specification: Trenched Evaluation**

- 4.1 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover 5% by area, which is  $c.225.00\text{m}^2$ . These shall be positioned to sample all parts of the site. Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.80m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated; this will result in a minimum of 125.00m of trenching at 1.80m in width.

- 4.2 If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' 1.80m wide must be used. A scale plan showing the proposed locations of the trial trenches should be included in the WSI and the detailed trench design must be approved by SCCAS/CT before field work begins.
- 4.3 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.
- 4.4 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.
- 4.5 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).
- 4.6 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.
- 4.7 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.
- 4.8 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.
- 4.9 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.
- 4.10 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed SCCAS/CT during the course of the evaluation).
- 4.11 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.



- 4.12 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.
- 4.13 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies and/or high resolution digital images.
- 4.14 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.
- 4.15 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.

## **5. General Management**

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are available to fulfill the Brief.
- 5.4 A detailed risk assessment must be provided for this particular site.
- 5.5 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 5.6 The Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments* (1999) and *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project.

## **6. Report Requirements**

- 6.1 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).
- 6.2 The report should reflect the aims of the WSI.
- 6.3 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 6.4 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.

- 6.5 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.
- 6.6 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).
- 6.7 A comprehensive list of all sources consulted (with specific references) should be included.
- 6.8 A copy of the Specification should be included as an appendix to the report.
- 6.9 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.
- 6.10 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*.
- 6.11 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.
- 6.12 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.
- 6.13 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.
- 6.14 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.
- 6.15 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.
- 6.16 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.
- 6.17 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.

- 6.18 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.
- 6.19 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.
- 6.20 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: Dr Jess Tipper

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Date: 6 June 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.**



## Appendix 2. Context list

Context Number	Feature Number	Feature Type	Category	Description	Period
0001			Other	Unstratified finds from Trench 1	
0002				Unstratified finds from trench 2	
0003				Unstratified finds from trench 3	
0004				Unstratified finds from trench 4	
0005				Unstratified finds from trench 5	
0006				Unstratified finds from trench 6	
0007	0007	Linear	Cut	Linear gully-like feature (wheel-rutting) WNW_ESE orientated with a shallow slightly irregular profile (medium sloped sides to an irregular flat/dished base	
0008	0007	Linear	Fill	Mid slightly greyish brown sandy silt and gravel firm but friable	
0009	0009	Linear	Cut	WNW-ESE orientated linear feature (probable wheel rut). Shallow irregular profile with an irregular base.	
0010	0009	Linear	Fill	Mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions. Firm but friable fill.	
0011	0011		Layer	Subsoil/colluvium deposit in Trench 3. Friable mid brown sandy silt with moderate fairly well-sorted small-medium pebbles (sub-angular/rounded) Contains some pottery fragments possibly moved by ploughing from a nearby feature?	
0012	0012	Gully	Cut	Shallow gully feature, NW/SE aligned across trench 4 with concave sides and a flattish base.	
0013	0012	Gully	Fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional small rounded and sub-angular flints and very occasional charcoal flecks.	
0014			Layer	Subsoil deposit in Trench 4. Pale/mid brown sandy silt with occasional to moderate small rounded to sub-angular flints.	

<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Feature Number</b>	<b>Feature Type</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Period</b>
0015	0015	Pit	Cut	Ovoid pit with steep sides to a shallow dished/flattish base.	
0016	0015	Pit	Fill	Firm/hard (sun-baked) silty clay, mid greyish brown with moderate sub-angular flints and stones.	
0017	0017	Pit	Cut	Circular pit, bowl-shaped profile with fairly steep sloping/near vertical sides to a flattish base.	
0018	0017	Pit	Fill	Mid greyish brown firm sandy silty clay mottled with orange sandy clay with moderate to frequent charcoal flecks, occasional small angular/rounded pebbles and burnt/cremated bone present.	

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### Appendix 3. Pottery spot dates

Context	Fabric	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/g	State	Comments	Fabric date	Context date
0001	GMG	Body		1	0	7	Abr		Roman	
0001	GX	Jar 4.5/6		1	0.07	7	Abr		Roman	Roman & 16th-18th C
0001	GRE	Body	Glaze	1	0	13	Sli		16th-18th C	
0002	GX	Jar 4.4		1	0.07	7	Abr		2nd C+	2nd C+
0002	GMG	Body		2	0	13	Abr		Roman	
0002	GMB	Body		1	0	3	Abr		Roman	
0002	BSW	Body		4	0	26	Abr		Roman	
0002	BSW	Base		1	0	9	Abr	0.19	Roman	
0002	GX	Body		3	0	11	Abr		Roman	
0003	GX	Body		3	0	17	Sli		Roman	
0003	BSW	Jar 4/5		1	0.02	2	Abr		Roman	
0003	BSW	Body		1	0	6	Sli		Roman	
0003	BSW	Base		1	0	30	Sli	0.19	Roman	
0003	GMG	Body		8	0	65	Abr-sli		Roman	
0003	RX	Body	Rouletting	2	0	8	Abr	Possible butt beaker sherd	Roman	Roman*
0003	STOR	Body		12	0	185	Abr-sli	All the same vessel GMG style fabric	Roman	*most look to be around the first half
0003	BUF	Body		1	0	1	Very		Roman	of the Roman period
0003	STOR	Body		3	0	54	Abr-sli	Thre different fabrics	Roman	
0003	HMF	Body		1	0	5	Sli		LBA-EIA/MIA	

Context	Fabric	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/g	State	Comments	Fabric date	Context date
0003	GX	Jar 4.5/6		1	0.03	6	Abr		2nd-4th C	
0004	HMF	Body		1	0	3	Sli		LBA-EIA/MIA	LBA-EIA/MIA
0005	COLBM	Body		4	0	273	Sli	All same mortaria base	2nd-E3rd C	
0005	BSW	Body		1	0	8	Abr		Roman	
0005	GMG	Jar 4.5/6		1	0.06	4	Abr		Roman	
0005	GMG	Body		1	0	9	Sli		Roman	2nd-E3rd C
0011	STOR	Body		1	0	11	Abr	GX style fabric	Roman	
0011	BSW	Body		5	0	38	Abr		Roman	
0011	STOR	Body		16	0	485	Sli	Trench 3 same vessel in GMG as in 0003. Black iron ore, silver mica, Suffolk product.	Roman	
0011	GX	Body		2	0	4	Abr		Roman	Roman (looks more likely 2nd C?+)
0016	HMSF	Body		4	0	10	Sli	Sparsesmall but ill sorted flint	IA	Roman
0016	HMSO	Body		1	0	6	Sli	Sparse elongated organic voids	IA	
0016	BSW	Body	Rouletting	3	0	7	Sli		Roman	
0016	GMB	Body	1 x rouletting	4	0	27	Sli		Roman	
0016	GX	Body		1	0	3	Abr		Roman	
0018	HMF	Body		1	0	1	Very	From sample <1>. Less than 0.25g.	LBA-EIA/MIA	LBA-EIA/MIA & Roman
0018	BSW	Body		1	0	1	Very	From sample <1>. Less than 0.25g. Fabric contains grog, looks early Roman, could be LIA too worn	Roman (?early)	





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