

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2011/183	Parish: Bury St Edmunds
<p style="text-align: center;">35a Guildhall Street</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BSE 380</p>	Planning Application No.: N/A
	HER Event No.: BSE 380
Address: 35a Guildhall Street Bury St Edmunds Suffolk, IP33 1QF	Grid Reference: TL 8529 6387
	Number of Site visits: One
	Date of visits: 19/10/2011
<p>Introduction</p> <p>A visit was made to the site to record a test pit prior to the construction of a conservatory and patio area at the rear of 35a Guildhall Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (Fig. 1). This work was carried out before a planning application was submitted. The work was part of an archaeological condition (by Dr Abby Antrobus of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team). One trench was excavated in order to record the stratigraphy that would be damaged by construction works.</p>	
<p>Trenching</p> <p>The trench measured 1.4m (NW-SE) x 0.9m (NE-SW) and was up to 0.6m deep (Fig. 2). The trench was entirely hand dug, including the removal of 0.18m of patio surface and Type 1 aggregate and the existing patio surface.</p>	

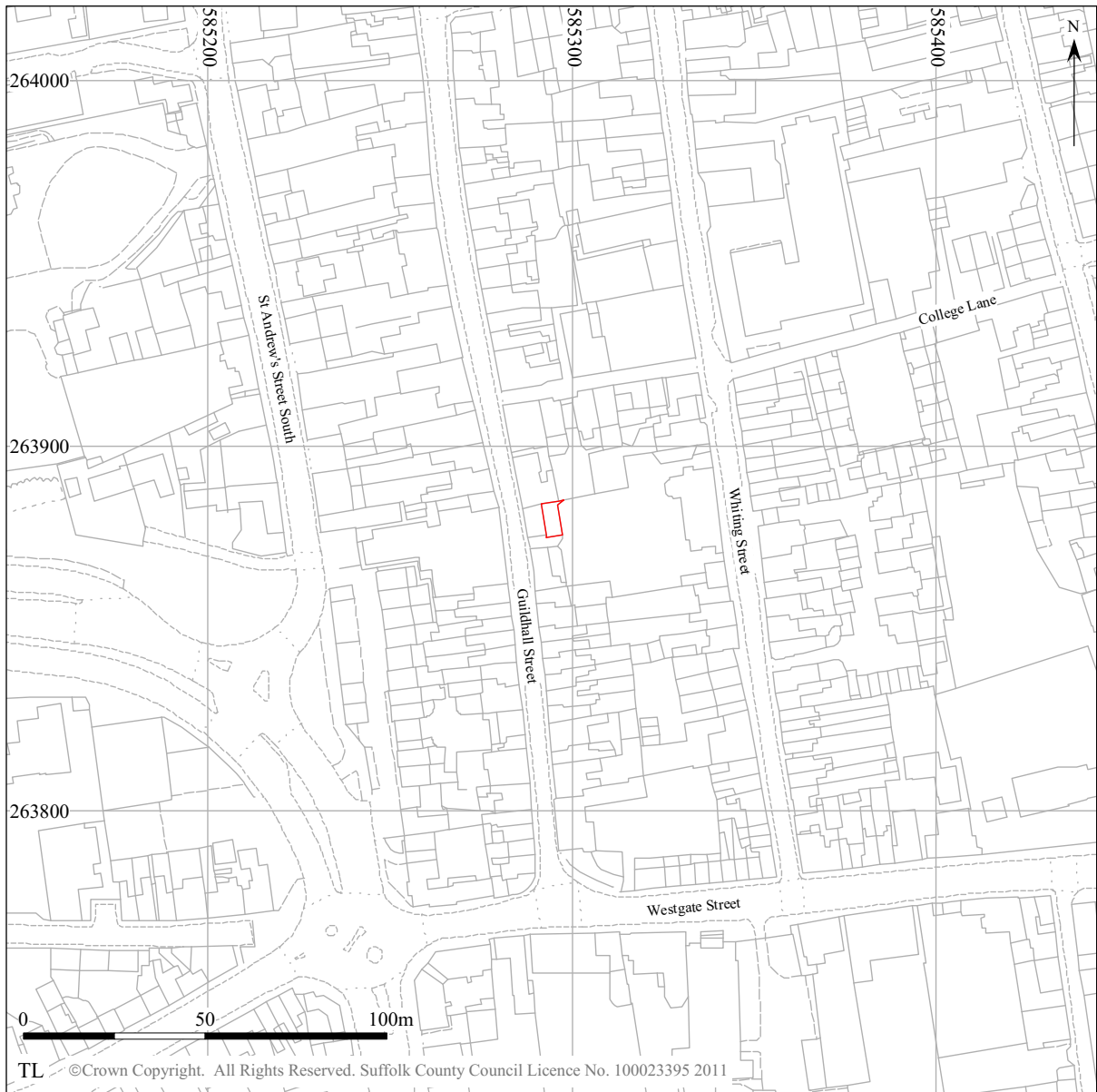
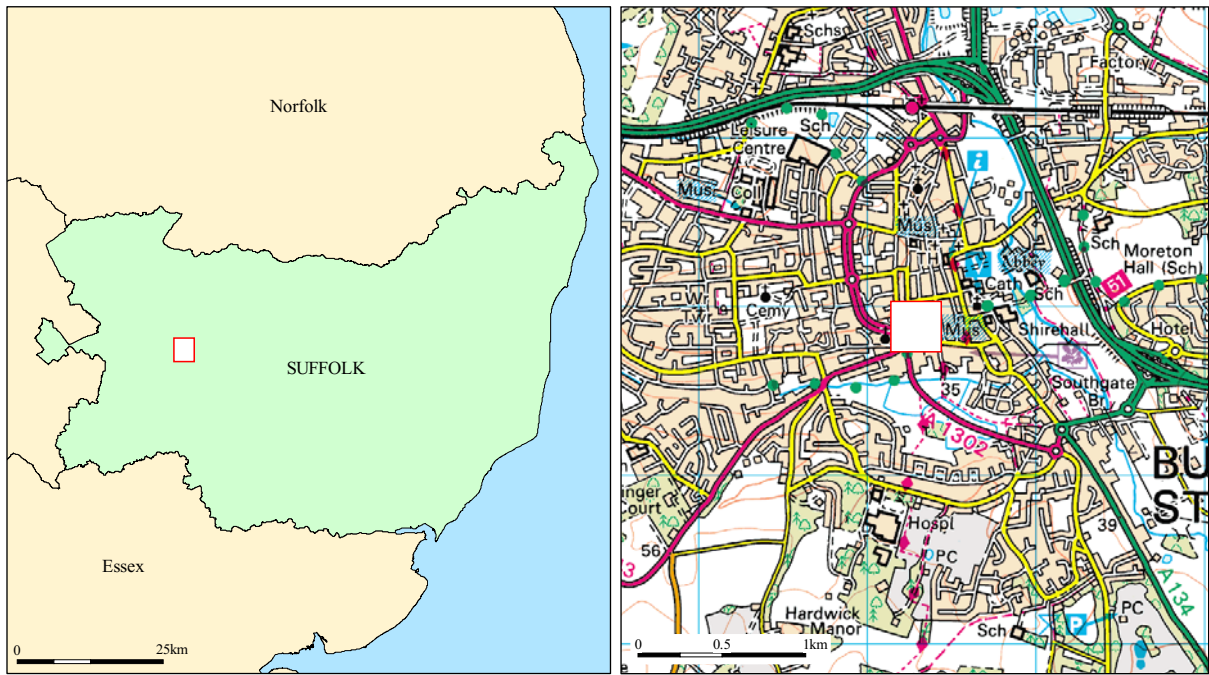


Figure 1. Site location with development outline (red)

Results and recommendations for further work

Excavation of the test pit revealed two soil layers beneath the 0.18m of patio and aggregate that was initially removed. The first deposit was recorded as layer 0001, which was 0.42m thick and consisted of firm dark grey silt, interspersed with loose rubble, with inclusions of chalk lumps and 19th century brick fragments (Plate 1 and Fig. 2).

Below layer 0001 the top of layer 0002 was exposed but not excavated. This was made up of light grey silt with inclusions of charcoal flecks and an amorphous patch of grey-orange clay.

There was no evidence for archaeological deposits pre-dating the post-medieval period within the test pit, despite the site's position within the medieval core of Bury St Edmunds. The layers that were revealed indicate a typical build-up of post-medieval material. However, any construction works penetrating to 0.6m below ground level or deeper, could uncover and destroy archaeological features and deposits. As such it is recommended that any such works should at a minimum be recorded through a programme of archaeological monitoring.

Finds

No finds were recovered from the evaluation.

Site visit by	Report written by	Date
Andrew Tester	Rob Brooks	27/10/2011

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.

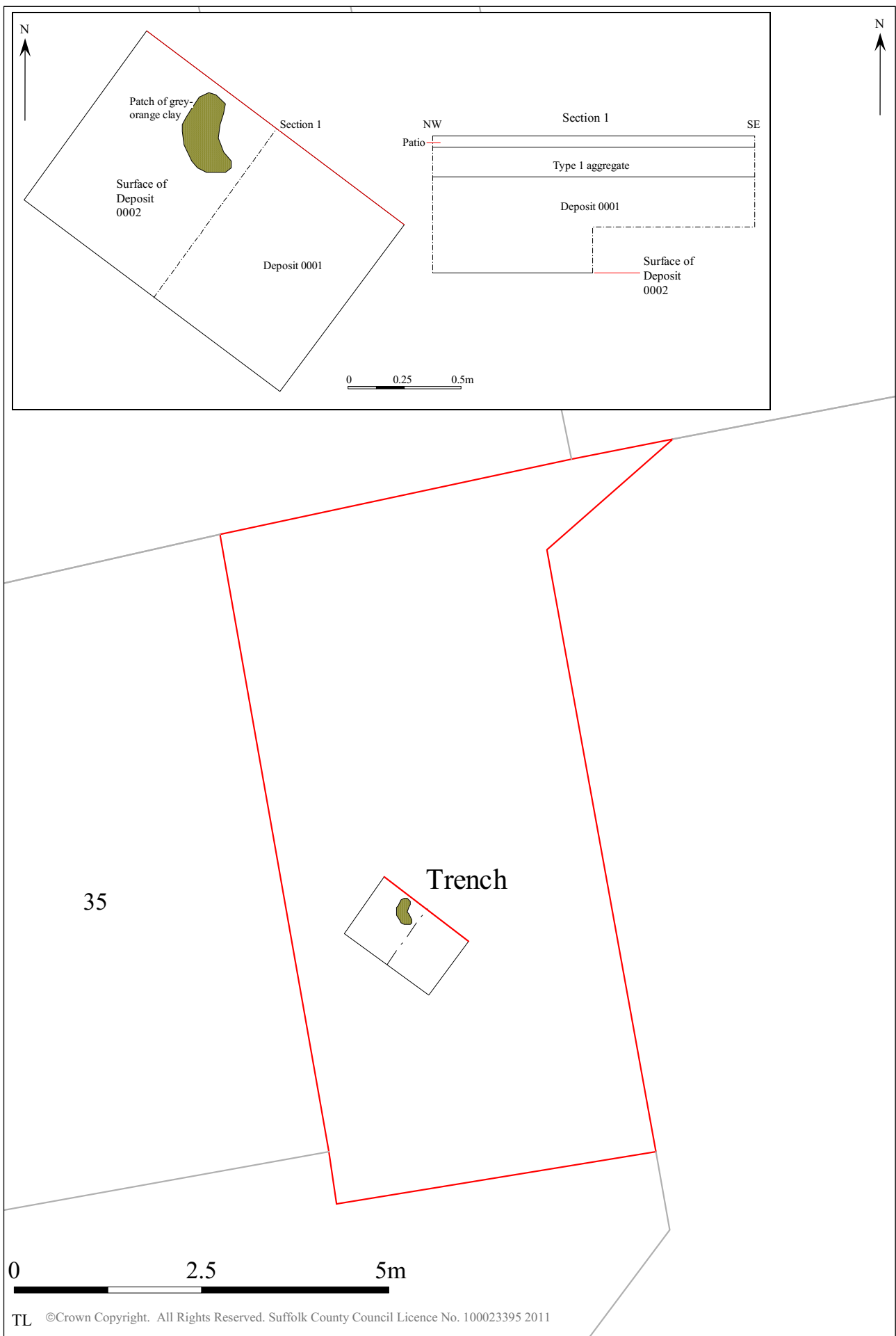


Figure 2. Site plan, showing development outline (red) and trench plan and section (inset)



Plate 1. Section 1, with 0.5m scale