

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

St John's House Hospital, Lion Road, Palgrave PAL 024

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION, 2005
(Planning app. no. 1624/03)

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Field Team
Suffolk C.C. Archaeological Service

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Acknowledgements

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The excavation was carried out by a number of archaeological staff, (John Craven, Nick Taylor, Alan Smith and Jonathan Van Jennians) all from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

The project was directed by John Craven and managed by Andrew Tester, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

The post-excavation was managed by Richenda Goffin. Finds processing and the producing of site plans and sections was carried out Gemma Adams, and the specialist finds report by Richenda Goffin and Cathy Tester with further identification by Colin Pendleton

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out in advance of development on land at St John's House Hospital, Lion Road, Palgrave. There was no evidence of any activity relating to the medieval chapel of St John the Baptist that is believed to lie on the site. This is a clear indication that the chapel was not located at this specific spot within the larger site of St John's Hospital but the probability remains that it lies beneath the current complex of buildings.

Three other phases of activity on the site were identified however, consisting of a single prehistoric pit and prehistoric subsoil surface, a sequence of Roman ditches and a post-medieval farm structure and buried topsoil. Further investigation was recommended prior to the sites development.

SMR information

Planning application no.	1624/03
Date of fieldwork:	14 th -15 th December 2005
Grid Reference:	TM 09937763
Funding body:	Care Perspectives
Oasis reference	Suffolkc1-11980

The site was of interest due to its location at St John's House, the marked site of a medieval chapel of St John the Baptist, PAL 003, on the County Sites and Monuments Record. The precise location and extent of the chapel is unknown, although documentary evidence gives some indication of its lifespan. A mention in Domesday indicates its foundation being in the mid 11th century and by the early 16th century five priests are in residence. Shortly after post-dissolution the chapel is described as decayed and lying half a mile from the parish church.

While the site lies just over a mile from the church the name of the farm, now a residential hospital, dates back to at least the 19th century. Together with the apparent structural origins of the hospital in the mid-late 16th century, this strongly suggests that the chapel and its probable range of ancillary structures, such as priests residences and farm buildings, or other features such as associated burials, are located on the hospital site. The most likely location is probably beneath the current complex but the possibility existed that the chapel might lie within the development area and any activity such as footing trenches had the potential to affect any archaeological remains. Therefore a programme of archaeological evaluation was required to identify and record any archaeological remains on the site, so that a decision on whether further investigation would be needed prior to development could be made.

2. Methodology

At the time of evaluation the site had been cleared and levelled. This had involved the demolition of various buildings and a subsequent levelling of the topsoil surface to approximate original ground level across the whole site. Trenching was limited in a small area in the north-east corner which was occupied by mature trees and a recently backfilled pond, and along the east edge of the site by a series of live services and mature trees.

As a result only 4500sqm of the site was available for evaluation. Six trenches, with a total length of 150m, were excavated by a mechanical digger with a 1.8m ditching bucket under the supervision of an archaeologist. This gave a total excavated area of 270sqm, or 6% of the total available area.

Trenches were excavated to the top of the archaeological layers or the natural subsoil surface with excavated soil being examined for unstratified finds. Areas of the trenches and soil profiles were then cleaned by hand and sections of possible features excavated. Trenches and spoil were examined by an experienced metal-detector.

Feature sections and soil profiles were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and digital photographs are included in the digital archive. Site plans and levels, relative to an arbitrary benchmark of 50m at the base of a corner of a building on the western side (Fig. 2), were recorded by TST. Absolute levels OD could not be recorded due to the lack of a nearby OS benchmark.

An OASIS form has been completed for the project (reference no. suffolkc1-11980).

The site archive is kept in the main store of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service at Bury St Edmunds under SMR No. PAL 024.

3. Results

(Figs 2-5)

The ground level of the site, post-demolition, was somewhat artificial although, in general, it was probably slightly above the original surface. The six trenches (Table 1 and Figs. 2-5), which were excavated to a depth between 0.6m and 1m, showed that a thick layer of building rubble and yard foundations overlaid a buried topsoil. This topsoil, being up to 1m thick, varied across the site from a dark loamy soil in Trenches 03 and 04, to lighter sandy soils in Trenches 01, 05 and 06. This former topsoil either directly overlaid the natural subsoil, a clean mid yellow/orange sand with patches of mid orange/brown clay, or over layers of grey/brown sands, which in turn overlaid the subsoil. The subsoil surface very gently sloped down to the east.

Trench No	Length	Depth	Description	Features
01	41m	0.7m-0.9m	W-E aligned with modern disturbance at west end. 0.2m-0.3m of modern material overlying mid brown loam/sand buried soil. Subsoil descends gradually to east with flint scraper, 0009, recovered from subsoil surface. Soil profiles 0007 and 0008.	Pit 0002, ditch 0004 and 0006.
02	22m	0.6m-0.8m	W-E aligned with modern disturbance at west end and centre. 0.3m of modern material over a 0.5m thick finds rich post-medieval buried topsoil (0017). Soil profiles 0019 and 0020.	Ditches 0011, 0015, 0018 and wall 0032.
03	16m	0.7m	W-E aligned with 0.3 of modern material and 0.4m of buried topsoil overlying the level subsoil. Soil profile 0021. Roman pottery, 0028, recovered from subsoil surface.	Structure 0022 and ditch 0024.
04	27m	0.8m-1m	N-S aligned, with 0.3m-0.5m of modern material overlying 0.5m-1m of mid brown/grey sands. Soil profiles 0013 and 0014.	Brick culvert 0033.
05	32m	0.7m-0.8m	N-S aligned with 2 areas of modern disturbance. 0.3m-0.5m of modern material over 0.2m-0.4m of buried topsoil. Soil profile 0026.	Ditch 0027.
06	11.5m	1m	N-S aligned, with 0.2m of modern topsoil over 0.8m of dark brown/grey sands.	No features.

Table 1. Trench list

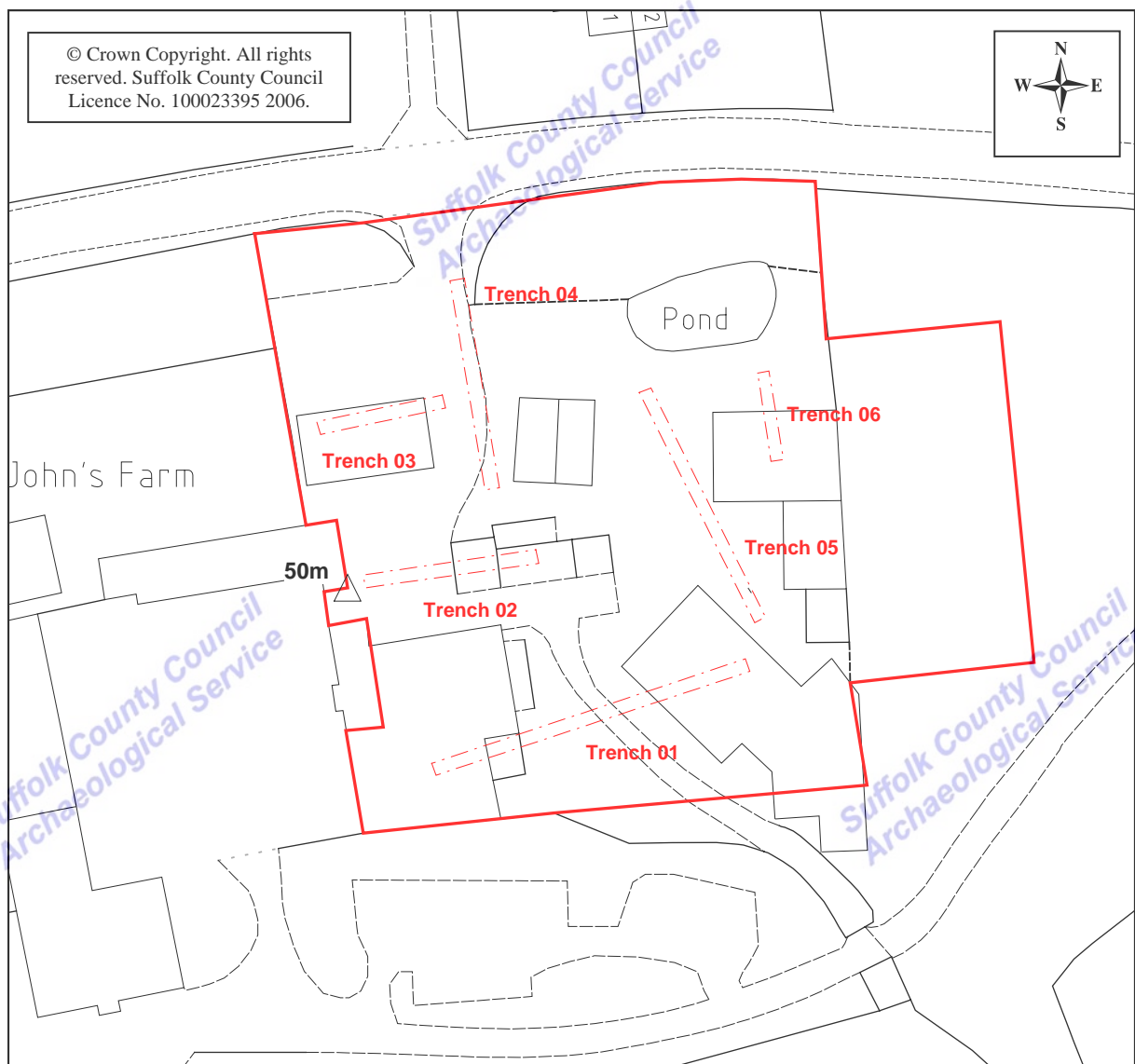


Figure 2. Trench location plan

3.1. Phase I: Prehistoric

A single feature was identified in this phase, a possible pit, 0002, on the north edge of Trench 01. Its cut was very indistinct but measured 0.8m wide and 0.12m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, 0003, was a pale brown sand with iron pan staining and contained three sherds of prehistoric pottery.

A single flint knife, 0009, was recovered from the subsoil surface in Trench 01, near to hollow 0006 which is probably a preserved element of the natural prehistoric landscape.

3.2. Phase II: Roman

A total of six sections of ditch were identified, indicating four or five separate linear features, with the majority containing material of a Roman date.

A large north-south ditch, generally measuring 1.4m to 1.8m wide and 0.5m to 0.6m deep, was identified in Trenches 01 and 02 as cuts 0004 and 0018. The respective fills, 0005 and 0030, were a similar mid-dark brown sand, with 0030 containing one sherd of Roman pottery. In cut 0018 it was cut by linear ditch 0015 in Trench 02.

0024 was a large ditch, aligned south-west to north-east, measuring 1.8m wide and 0.5m deep. Its fill, 0025, was a mid-dark brown sand containing two sherds of Roman pottery.

Ditch 0011, excavated in section 0010, was aligned south-west to north-east and measured 0.6m wide and 0.13m deep. Its fill, 0012, was a mid brown/grey sand fill with small stones and contained two sherds of Roman pottery.

Six metres to the east of 0011 and running roughly parallel to it was ditch 0015. Measuring 0.9m wide and 0.2m deep its fill, 0016, was a dark grey/brown sand from which nine sherds of Roman pottery and 43 pieces of animal bone were recovered. A Roman copper alloy ring, 1000, was detected in the ditch fill to the north-east of the section. To the west it could just be seen on the edge of the trench that 0015 cut ditch 0018.

Finally, although undated, ditch 0027 is placed in this phase due to its similarity of alignment with 0011 and 0015, which indicates that it is likely to be a continuation of one or the other. It measured 1.2m wide and 0.25m deep and had a fill, 0031, of light grey/brown sand.

Other Roman finds included two sherds of Roman pottery, 0028, found on the surface in Trench 03 and two Roman coins, 1001 and 1002, which were recovered from the spoil of Trench 03 and the backfilled Trench 04 respectively.

3.3. Phase III: Post-medieval

Several features were identified as belonging to this phase, probably all relating to the recently demolished structures associated with the former farm.

Of principal interest was 0022, a rectilinear clay lined cellar, tank or pit measuring 2.8m wide and with a base 1.2m below groundlevel. Sealed beneath 0.3m of topsoil the upper 0.3m of this structure was removed by machine, as the trench was lowered to the normal level of the surrounding natural subsoil. The structure consisted of a vertical clay wall or lining, 0.2m thick with a flat clay base. Set 0.6m deep into the subsoil, there was no indication of an external footing trench. A section was excavated against the western interior face of the lining, a solid

grey/green clay with chalk flecks, upon which the imprint of a brick wall was clearly visible. A mix of collapsed or redeposited clay (of the same type as seen in the lining), fine sand, charcoal and brick fragments, 0029, lay across the clay base, either as a thin layer or as more substantial irregular dumps, upto 0.2m thick. Three pieces of 17th-18th century brick were recovered from this deposit. Above this the remainder of the feature was infilled with a clean and fine orange gravel, 0023.

Once through the modern levels in Trench 02 the topsoil removed was particularly rich and contained a variety of post-medieval finds, 0017. A sample, of brick, clay pipe and animal bone was collected and included an ivory handled iron knife, 1003.

0032 was a surviving flint and mortar foundation for a north-south aligned wall, presumably contemporary with the existing brick buildings to the west which were seen to be resting on flint foundations two or three courses thick. Approximately 0.6m wide and 0.2m thick, the base of the foundation sat a full 0.2m above the level of ditch 0011 over which it crossed.

0033 was a culvert, circular in section and built of red brick, measuring 0.45m in diameter and aligned south-west to north-east. A ceramic drainage pipe had later been inserted by removing the top of the culvert.

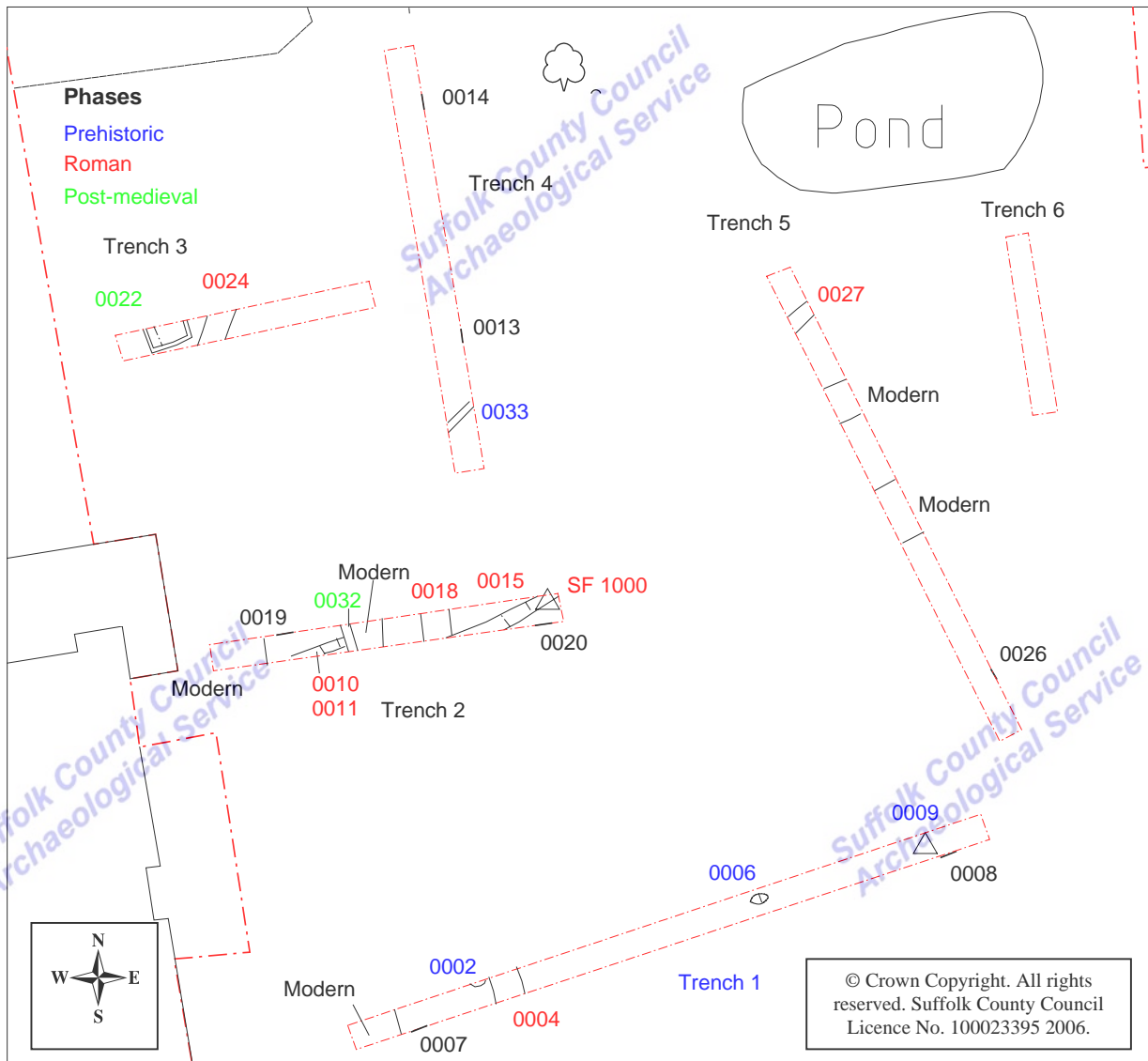


Figure 3. Site plan

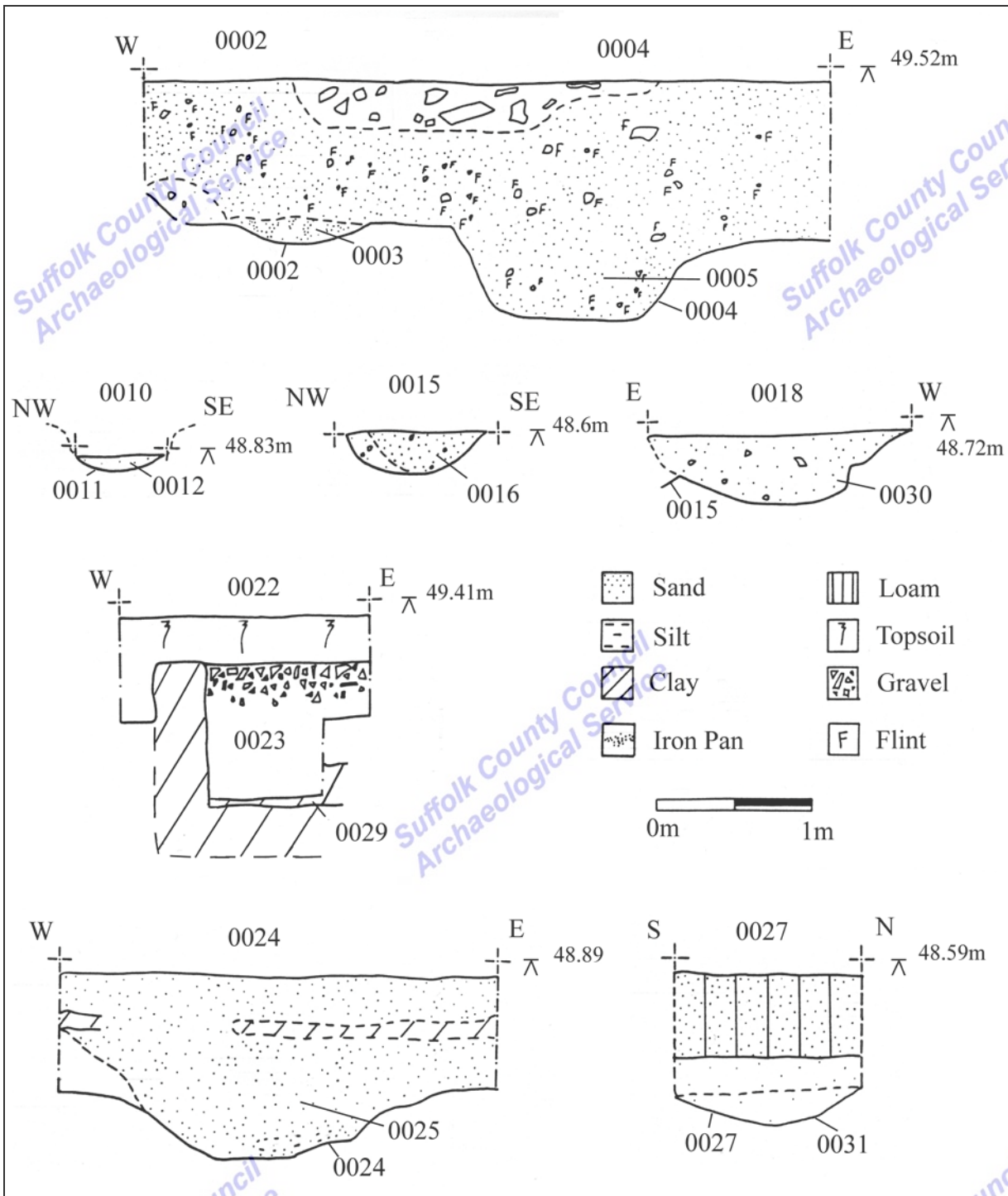


Figure 4. Feature sections

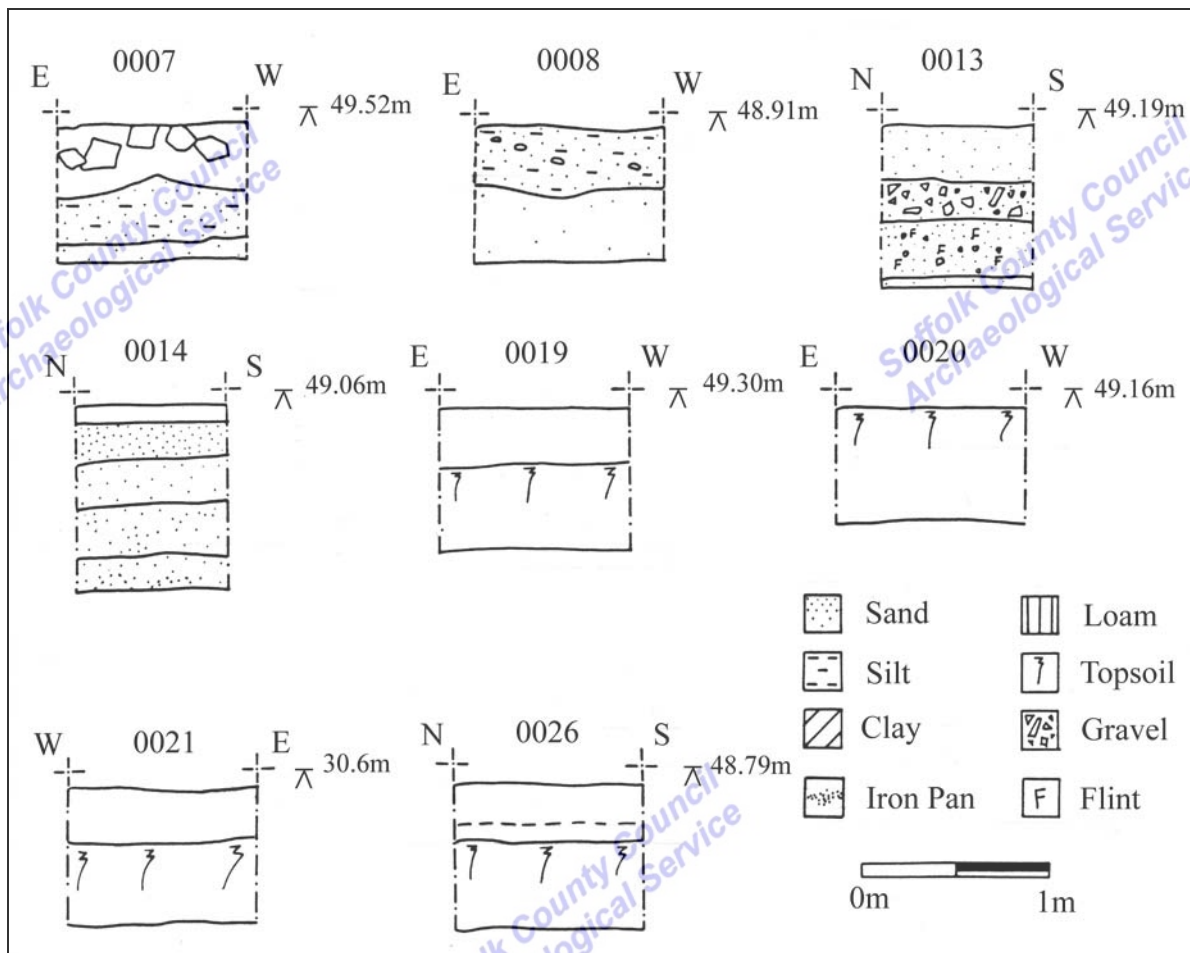


Figure 5. Trench profiles

4. The Finds

(Richenda Goffin and Cathy Tester)

4.1. Introduction

Finds were collected from nine contexts during the evaluation and the quantities by context are shown in the table below.

Context	Pottery		CBM		Animal bone		Flint		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
	No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g		
0003	3	26								Preh
0009							1	18		Preh
0012	2	17								Rom
0016	9	82			43	226			Burnt stone 1 (13g)	MC2+
0017			1	720	9	1162			Clay pipe 1 (3g); Fe 1 (24g)	17th c +
0025	1	18			3	241				LC3/4
0028	2	114								LC3/4
0029			3	1484						17-18th c
0030	2	3								Rom
Total	17	146	4	2204	55	1629	1	18		

Table 2. Finds quantities.

4.2. Pottery

Nineteen sherds of pottery (260g) were collected from five features, four ditches, a pit and as surface finds, in three of the evaluation trenches.

The earliest is prehistoric and comes from pit 0002 (fill 0003) in Trench 01. The vessel, a bowl, is flint tempered and has an upright neck with a slightly everted, rounded and thickened rim and incised decoration from the base of the neck downwards. The decoration consists of a band of vertical lines above a bead cordon with a panel of dots and a panel of chevrons below. Both the form and the decorative style suggest an Iron Age date for the vessel, the form particularly suggests *later* Iron Age (Edward Martin, pers. comm).

The rest of the pottery is Roman and comes from three ditches in Trench 02 and from one ditch and the surface of Trench 03. The pottery consists of local or regional coarsewares which include black-surfaced wares (BSW), micaceous wares in the black-surfaced (GMB) and grey (GMG) variants and sandy grey wares (GX). Forms identified include dishes and jars but the sherds are mainly non-diagnostic. Some of the smaller sherds appear to be early but the more datable pieces are probably 2nd century or later. The most datable pieces came from Trench 03 and belong to the late 3rd or 4th century. They are a flange-rimmed straight-sided dish from ditch 0024 (fill 0025) and a late shell-tempered ware (LSH) jar which was a surface find (0028).

4.3. Ceramic building material

Four fragments of ceramic building material (2204g) were found in two contexts. A single white-firing brick was present in the topsoil deposit 0017 in Trench 02. It is made from a fine fabric containing grog or clay pellets and dates to the post-medieval period. Two further bricks were recovered from 0029, the lowest fill of the clay-lined structure 0022. Two joining pieces are made from a coarse sandy dark red fabric which contain occasional flint and ferrous inclusions. The third fragment is made from a slightly less sandy, but similar fabric. Both these bricks are post-medieval, with thicknesses indicative of a 17th -18th century date (Drury 1993, 164).

4.4. Clay tobacco pipe

A single fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem was present in the topsoil deposit 0017 in Trench 02 dating to the post-medieval period.

4.5. Small finds and metalwork

Four small finds were recovered from the site, three of which are Roman. A coin of Valens (AD 364-378) was present in the spoil of Trench 03 (SF 1001), and one of Decentius (AD 350-353) was found in the backfill in Trench 04 (SF 1002). A complete copper alloy ring 1000 was found in ditchfill 0016 with several fragments of Roman pottery. It is undecorated and ovoid in section, with an internal diameter of 27mm.

The substantial remains of a post-medieval knife SF 1003 was found in the topsoil deposit in Trench 02. It has an iron whittle-tanged blade and a plain undecorated ivory handle. It dates to the 17th or 18th century.

A fragment of iron, probably a nail, was found in topsoil deposit 0017.

4.6. Flint

(identification by Colin Pendleton)

Only one fragment of worked flint was identified from the evaluation. A plano-convex knife was found in the subsoil in Trench 01, which is likely to date to the Neolithic period, or possibly the Early Bronze Age.

4.7. Animal bone

A small quantity of animal bone (55 fragments, 1629g) was recovered from three contexts in Trenches 02 and 03. Three fragments were found in ditch fill 0025 with a fragment of Roman pottery. All three pieces are stained. A complete vertebra belonging to a small mammal was present, together with shaft of a tibia of a sheep or pig, broken off at both ends. The fragmentary remains of the mandible of a horse were identified in ditch fill 0016, together with part of the shaft of a lower limb bone, probably a sheep. Most of the animal bone was found in the topsoil deposit in Trench 02. Several large but fragmentary bones were present, including a very large rib of cattle or horse size.

4.8. Discussion of the finds evidence

The evaluation finds assemblage contains prehistoric pottery and flint from Trench 01 which indicate activity on this site during the Neolithic or Bronze Age and the Iron Age. Roman pottery and other finds from Trenches 02 and 03 suggest activity during the entire Roman period. The most datable pottery has 2nd, 3rd and 4th century dates and the two coins belong to the late 4th century.

Finds of a post-medieval date were identified in the topsoil deposit 0017, and in the fill of the clay-lined structure. There was no evidence of any activity dating to the early medieval period, following the establishment of the chapel of St John after the Conquest. No other medieval finds were identified which could have been associated with the use of the chapel before its demise in the second half of the 16th century, or with any other associated structures.

5. Discussion

Although three separate phases of activity have been identified on the site there was no evidence of any activity in the medieval period, whether in general or specifically relating to the presence of the chapel. This appears to be a clear indication that the chapel was not located at this specific spot within the larger site of St John's Hospital.

The natural subsoil lies at a considerable depth, below a thick build up of topsoils and c.0.3-5m of modern demolition rubble deposits. In general modern disturbance affecting the subsoil is limited, the presence of a Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flint knife (0009), Iron Age pottery in pit 0004 and the natural silted hollows (0006), demonstrates that preservation of the prehistoric soil horizons is relatively good in the southern part of the site. As the trenching is limited to only a small area it would seem likely that other prehistoric remains, which characteristically are often widely dispersed, may survive in the general vicinity.

The presence of three or four ditches, all apparently of Roman date, indicates a more substantial phase of activity, from the mid 2nd century onwards. The parallel ditches, 0011, 0015, and 0027, are most likely part of a field or trackway system while the north-south ditch, 0004/0018, being cut by 0020, may be a part of an earlier Roman system. Ditch 0024, on a different alignment again, may be slightly later in date with pottery from the late 3rd/4th century and a 4th century coin, 1001, coming from somewhere in the trench.

After the Roman period there is no indication of any occupation or use of the site until the post-medieval period when the site is assumed to have been a working farm. The good topsoil seen in Trench 03 (0017), rich in finds and lying close to the farm buildings, indicates that this part of the site may have been used as kitchen gardens or something similar, seeing material either

brought in via manuring processes or simply dumped from the nearby buildings. The knife, 1003, indicates a 17th-18th century date for this deposition.

Broadly contemporary with 0017, as indicated by the pieces of 17th-18th century brick in its basal fill, structure 0022 is clearly a part of the post-medieval farmstead although its full dimensions and function is unknown. The thick clay structure may be a lining for some sort of underground tank or storage pit although the brick impressions upon its inner face imply some sort of more solid structure once existed within. An initial period of disuse allowed the basal deposit, 0029, which contained some apparent demolition rubble, to be laid down. The feature was then, at an unknown date, deliberately infilled with a dense deposit of graded gravel and sand.

The culvert 0033 and foundation 0032 clearly relate to the presence of the farm and hospital in the recent past, with 0032 possibly being part of a small building shown on the 1880 OS.

6. Conclusion and Recommendations

The evaluation revealed no evidence of the medieval chapel, or of any other activity in the period when it is known to have been in use. This firmly indicates that the chapel lies elsewhere although it is still perfectly possible to assume its location as being somewhere beneath the main complex of St John's.

However the evaluation has identified important evidence of phases of activity on the site in other periods, with one prehistoric pit and a sequence of Roman ditches. As the evaluation has only simply established the presence of these archaeological deposits the site would benefit from further archaeological investigation, in the form of excavation, so that the extent, character and date of activity in these phases can be better established.

Finally evidence was found of the sites use in the post-medieval period when it was either adjacent to, or part of the St Johns House farm. This principally consists of a 17th-18th century structure, 0022, and a contemporary topsoil. Other features are of less interest as they probably relate to the more recent 19th/20th farm activity on the site. Due to the close proximity of ditch 0024, structure 0022 ought to be included in the area of excavation by default, which may allow its full form and function to be established.

J.A. Craven
January 2006

References

Drury, P., 1993, 'Ceramic Building Materials' in Margeson, S., Norwich Households Medieval and Post-medieval finds from Norwich Survey Excavations 1971-8, EAA Report No 58

Disclaimer

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Division alone. 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 service cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

Appendix 1

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation

ST JOHN'S HOUSE, PALGRAVE

The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety responsibilities, see paragraph 1.8.

1. Background

- 1.1 An application [1624/03] has been made to provide extensive new buildings adjacent to the existing hospital.
- 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 (PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition). An archaeological evaluation of the application area will be required as the first part of such a programme of archaeological work; decisions on the need for, and scope of, any further work will be based upon the evaluation.
- 1.3 The development area lies on or adjacent to the marked site of a medieval chapel which is included in the County Sites and Monuments Record (PAL 003). The chapel is mentioned in the Domesday Book so is likely to be mid 11th century in origin, it was in use in 1433 (it is mentioned in a will). At the time of the Dissolution records imply the existence of a hall of residence for five priests. By 1546 it is referred to a “decayed”. The precise location of the chapel itself is not known and the presence and extent of subsidiary buildings, e.g. priests’ residence or farm buildings is also unknown. The name of the principal residence upon the site ‘St Johns’ goes back at least until the 19th century. This provides circumstantial evidence for the location of the chapel being on this location. A partial building survey (MacDowdy 2002) suggests an origin for the main dwelling on the site (the centre of the current hospital) at or about 1560.

Further documentary research carried out under a brief for a desk top evaluation (*Palgrave-St John04*, 30/4/04) was not significantly informative and did not include evidence of land holdings and ownership (e.g. from terriers). However, information from another source has identified a Chantry Certificate of 1548 which clearly demonstrates the existence of the chapel, “A free chapel, founder unknown ... it is no parish church but a chapel now decayed half a mile from the parish church”. Although not conclusive (as the location is well over half a mile from the church) this evidence, together with the historic house name, is sufficient to confirm the strong possibility that this is the location of the chapel site. A will of c. 1370 requests that a chaplain “... be buried... in the chapel of St John the Baptist of Palgrave if canonically possible”; this raises the possibility that there may also be burials associated with the chapel.

The proposed development is extensive, covering an area currently occupied by redundant farm buildings. If the chapel is within the development area its remains are likely to be significantly affected.

- 1.4 The development area is shown on the attached drawing (Figure 1). There are significant buildings with areas of land and soft landscaping. The farm buildings on the site will be demolished by others before evaluation can begin (probably early 2005).
- 1.5 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.
- 1.6 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.
- 1.7 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Project Design or Written Scheme of Investigation (PD/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 (Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the PD/WSI as satisfactory. The PD/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.
- 1.8 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.

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* [at the discretion of the developer].
- 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 whether waterlogged organic deposits are likely to be present in the proposal area.
- 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 the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (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: Field Evaluation**

- 3.1 Examine the area for earthworks, e.g. banks, building platforms, ditches. If present these are to be recorded in plan at 1:2500, with appropriate sections. A record should be made of the topographic setting of the site (e.g. slope, plateau, etc). The Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service must be consulted if earthworks are present and before proceeding to the excavation of any trial trenches.
- 3.2 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover a minimum 6% by area of the entire site and 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 1.8m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated. If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' at least 1.2m wide must be used. The trench design must be approved by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service before field work begins; a possible trench design is shown on the development plan, Figure 1.
- 3.3 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine fitted with toothless bucket and other equipment. 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 further 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.
- 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 The contractor shall 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 P Murphy, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy and Wiltshire 1994) is available.
- 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 with the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service 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. Any variations from this must be agreed with the Conservation Team.
- 3.13 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies.
- 3.14 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.

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 the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service.
- 4.2 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors).

- 4.3 A general Health and Safety Policy must be provided, with detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this particular site.
- 4.4 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 4.5 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* and for *Field Evaluations* 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 data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monuments Record.
- 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. 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 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*. The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County SMR if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.
- 5.8 The site archive is to be deposited with the County SMR within three months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 5.9 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 the Conservation Team, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.

- 5.10 County SMR sheets must be completed, as per the county SMR manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 5.11 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.
- 5.12 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the SMR. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

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Date: 3 November 2004

Reference: /Palgrave-StJohns11

This brief and specification remains valid for 12 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	feature	trench	identifier	description		spotdate	phase
0001	0001		Unstratified	Unstratified finds recovered during machining.			
0002	0002	1	Pit cut	Possible pit, approx 50% visible on north edge of trench. Measured 0.8m wide and 0.12m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base.			I
0003	0002	1	Pit fill	Pale brown sand with iron pan staining.		IA?	I
0004	0004	1	Ditch cut	Linear ditch, aligned N-S with steep sloping sides and a flat base, measuring 1.4m wide and 0.6m deep.			II
0005	0004	1	Ditch fill	Mid-dark brown sand.			II
0006	0006	1	Hollow	Irregular natural hollow/treehole with brown sand fill, approx 1m wide and 0.2m deep.			I
0007	0007	1	Soil profile	Profile of trench 01, west end.			
0008	0008	1	Soil profile	Profile of trench 01, east end.			
0009	0009	1	Finds	Flint scraper recovered from subsoil surface at east end of trench 01.		Preh	I
0010	0011	2	Ditch section	Section of ditch 0011.			II
0011	0011	2	Ditch cut	Linear ditch, aligned south-west to north-east, measuring 0.6m wide and 0.13m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base.			II
0012	0011	2	Ditch fill	Mid brown/grey sand fill with small stones in section 0010.		Rom	II
0013	0013	4	Soil profile	Profile of trench 04, south end.			
0014	0014	4	Soil profile	Profile of trench 04, north end.			
0015	0015	2	Ditch cut	Linear ditch, aligned south-west to north-east, measuring 0.9m wide and 0.2m deep with moderate sloping sides and a concave base.			II
0016	0015	2	Ditch fill	Dark grey/brown sand.		MC2+	II
0017	0017	2	Finds	Sample of material present in topsoil layer beneath modern disturbance in Trench 02.		17+	III
0018	0018	2	Ditch cut	Linear ditch aligned north-south, 1.6m wide and 0.5m deep with moderate sloping sides and a concave base.			II
0019	0019	2	Soil profile	Profile of trench 02, west end.			
0020	0020	2	Soil profile	Profile of trench 02, east end.			

context	feature	trench	identifier	description	spotdate	phase
0021	0021	3	Soil profile	Profile of trench 03, east end.		
0022	0022	3	Structure	Rectilinear, clay lined pit, cellar or tank? measuring 2.8m wide and, c.0.9m deep from where it was first visible in section, sealed beneath topsoil and modern deposits. The upper 0.3m had been removed by machine. Consisted of a vertical clay wall or lining, 0.2m thick, with a solid flat clay base. The clay was a solid grey/green colour with chalk flecks. A section, exposing the base and west wall was excavated - this showed that a layer of debris (0024) covered the base, generally as a thin spread but also more substantial in places above which was a clean infill of gravel (0023). Imprinted on the inner edge of the clay lining were the marks of a brick wall.		III
0023	0022	3	Structure fill	Final infill of 0022. Clean, fine orange gravel. Deliberate backfill.		III
0024	0024	3	Ditch cut	Linear ditch, aligned south-west to north-east, measuring 1.8m wide and 0.5m deep with steep sides and a flat base.		II
0025	0024	3	Ditch fill	Mid-dark brown sand.	LC3/4	II
0026	0026	5	Soil profile	Profile of trench 05, south end.		
0027	0027	5	Ditch cut	Linear ditch aligned east-west measuring 1.2m wide and 0.25m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base.		II
0028	0028	3	Surface finds	Surface finds, Trench 03	LC3/4	
0029	0022	3	Fill	Basal fill of structure 0022. A mix of collapsed or redeposited clay, sand and charcoal forming a thin layer across base of feature, with occasional more substantial irregular dumps upto 0.2m thick, above clay surface.	17-18th	III
0030	0018	2	Ditch fill	Mid-dark brown sand.	Rom	II
0031	0027	5	Ditch fill	Light grey/brown sand.		II
0032	0032	2	Wall foundation	Flint and mortar foundation for a north-south aligned wall. Surviving part is approx 0.2m thick and its base sits 0.2m above ditch 0011.		III
0033	0033	4	Brick culvert	Red brick culvert, 0.45m in diameter with a later ceramic pipe inserted, aligned south-west to north-east.	19th-20th C	III