

**South Seafront and Martello Tower P  
Felixstowe, Suffolk  
FEX 294**

**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

**SCCAS Report No. 2012/061**

**Client: J S Bloor (Sudbury) Ltd.**

Author: M. Sommers

May 2012



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Author: M. Sommers

Contributions By: Richenda Goffin

Illustrator: M. Sommers

Editor: Dr. R. Gardner

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## HER Information

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### 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: M. Sommers  
Date: 21st June 2012

Approved By: Dr Rhodri Gardner  
Position: Contracts Manager (Acting)  
Date: 21st June 2012  
Signed:



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## Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out in an area of land lying between Langer Road and the sea wall to the south of the town of Felixstowe in advance of a residential development. Lying within this site is Martello Tower P, one of a chain of defensive towers built along the Essex and Suffolk coast in the early 1800s and a designated Scheduled Monument. The tower lies within a 'military compound' that originally was marked boundary stones and later by an iron railing fence. A total of forty-one trenches were excavated across the site. The majority were placed to randomly sample all areas of the development area although a small number were positioned to target specific areas of interest, primarily in the region of the Martello Tower. The greater majority of the trenches revealed only undisturbed natural sand and shingle deposits at relatively shallow depths or just beneath modern deposits of hardcore, although in some trenches a small number of archaeological features were identified. Towards the southern end of the site a large ditch running parallel to the seawall was recorded. Within this feature evidence for timber uprights which probably held a wire fence that ran along the bottom of the ditch were noted. Elsewhere within the site a partially sunken 'bunker' formed from tin boxes was recorded. It was probably associated with a short length of trench revetted by timber and a steel sheet recorded nearby. These features have been interpreted as probable World War II defences that were possibly built by the Home Guard. Three pit features were recorded across the site, all of which were probably 20th century in date, and the below ground remains of the Herman de Stern building (a Victorian convalescence home) were identified in the north-east corner of the site.

A number of targeted trenches were excavated within the 'military compound'. On the whole these were negative although three trenches excavated adjacent to the tower proved it had originally been surrounded by a modest ditch. In two of these trenches buried lengths of copper strip were also revealed, one of which was attached to a copper coated earthing rod. These are related to the tower's use as a wireless telegraphy station in the early 20th century and would have formed a 'ground plane' for the antenna. Additionally, concrete blocks into which an iron ring has been set were found in two of the trenches adjacent the tower. These are tethers for guide wires that supported an antenna. It was noted that a number of similar blocks and other tethering points were present in the vicinity of the tower, all of which probably related to the tower's use as a Wireless Telegraphy Station. (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service for J S Bloor (Sudbury) Ltd.).



# 1. Introduction

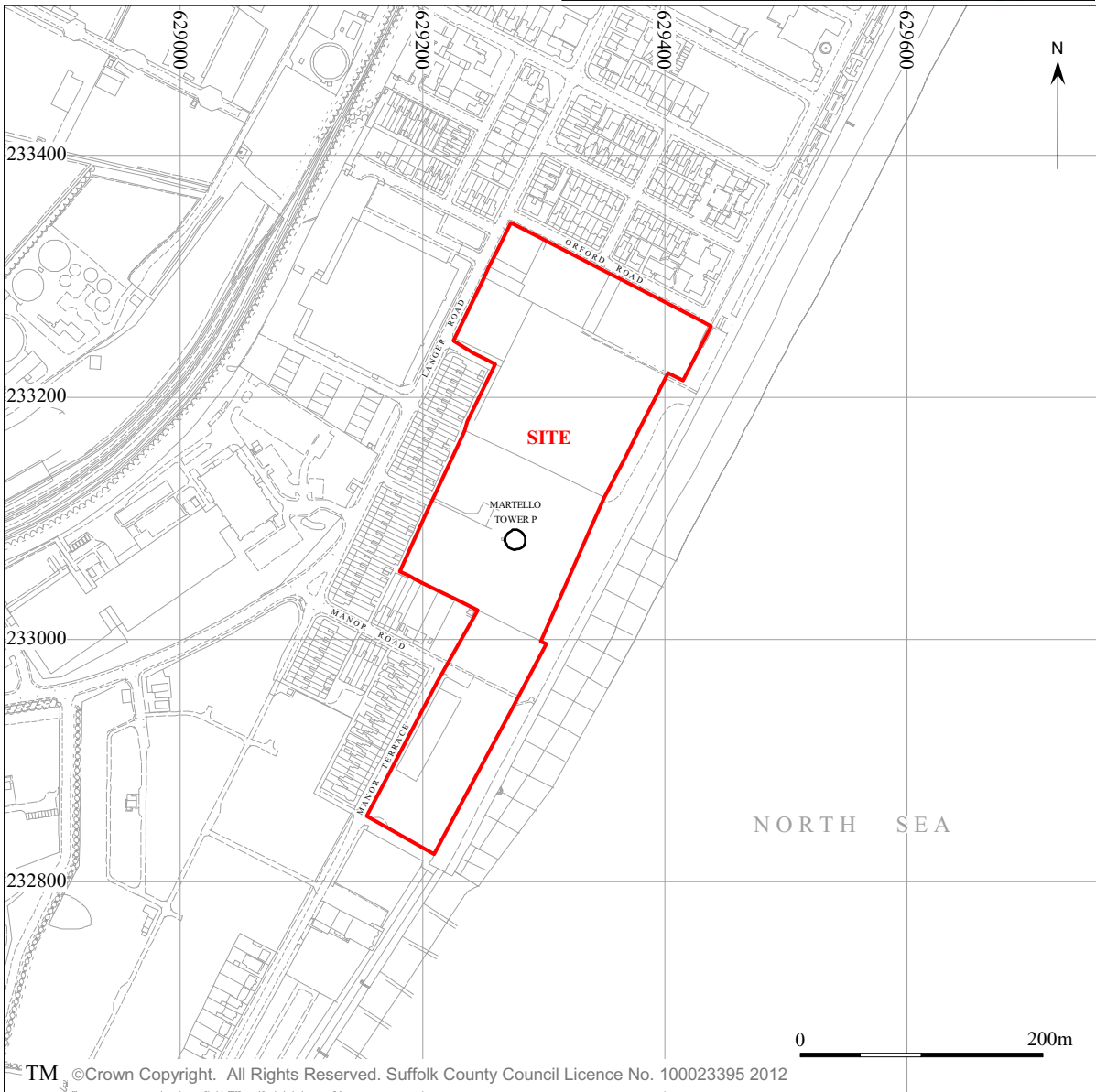
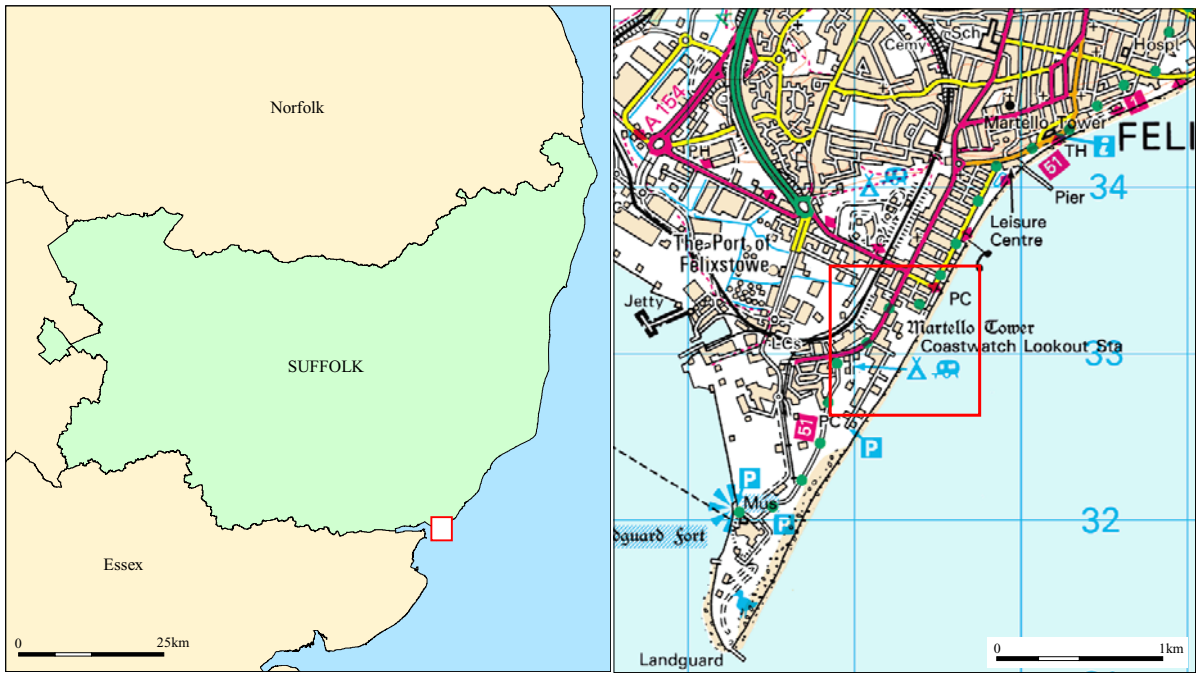
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A residential development has been proposed for a 5.6 hectare parcel of land, designated the Felixstowe South Seafront, situated between Langer Road, Manor Terrace and the seawall in an area to the south of the town of Felixstowe. Planning consent has been granted (C/12/0068) with an attached condition requiring an agreed programme of archaeological work be undertaken in association with this development.

Situated within the development area is Martello Tower P, one of a chain of twenty-nine defensive towers built along the Essex and Suffolk coast between 1808 and 1812 in response to a perceived threat from the French. They run from St Oysth in Essex to Aldeburgh in Suffolk. They were designated by letters of the alphabet from A to Z and AA to CC (Millward, 2007). The tower is situated within a 'military compound' that was originally marked by boundary stones, some of which still survive, and possibly a ditch. It was later marked by an iron railing fence, a large proportion of which is still extant. The tower has been designated a Scheduled Monument (No. 1006013) and the tower and the 'military compound' are recorded on the County Historic Environment Record (HER), ref. FEX 063. The tower is also a Listed Building (No. 1284281).

Following a Desk-Based Assessment (Breen and Sommers, 2008), which detailed the archaeological potential of the site, the trenched evaluation was undertaken in order to ascertain what levels of archaeological evidence may actually be present within the development area and to inform any mitigation strategies that may then be deemed necessary; as specified in a Brief and Specification produced by Dr Jess Tipper of the Suffolk County Council Conservation Team (Appendix 1). A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Gardner, 2012) was produced and approved by Dr Tipper; which details the proposed methods to be used. A number of the trenches proposed in the WSI were targeted at specific points of interest at the request of English Heritage.

The National Grid Reference for the approximate centre of the site is TM 2929 3308. Figure 1 shows a location plan of the site. The archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service's Field Team who were commissioned and funded by J S Bloor (Sudbury) Ltd.



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Figure 1. Location map

## **2. Geology and topography**

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The underlying geology of the Felixstowe peninsular comprises chalk overlain by London clay which is in turn overlain by deposits of crag. The area of the South Seafront development itself is formed from a sand and gravel ridge and a complex sequence of shifting shingle ridges and valleys. Since the construction of sea defences the shifting shingle has become stable and a poor thin sandy topsoil has developed which has enabled scrub/heathland grasses to become established.

The site consists of a series of conjoined rectangular areas totalling approximately 5.6ha, lying to the south of the coastal town of Felixstowe. It is bounded by Orford Road to the north-east; Langer Road, the rear gardens of properties that front Langer Road and Manor Terrace to the north-west; a holiday caravan park to the south-west; and a concrete seawall with beaches beyond to the south-east.

The site lies at a height of c. 4.0m OD and as such is slightly higher than the adjacent inland area which consists of reclaimed marshland. The site itself is generally level with a barely perceptible slope down towards the north and west.

At the time of the evaluation, the site comprised open grassland, areas of car parking and small areas of low trees and shrubs.

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

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The background of the site has been detailed in a Desk-Based Assessment (Breen and Sommers, 2008). In summary, historical sources indicate that in 1734 the coastline lay just to the rear of the houses presently fronting Langer Road and that the development site is situated on a shifting bank of sand and shingle that accrued during the 18th century. By the early 19th century this area of new land was clearly deemed stable enough for the construction of the Martello Tower in 1808, at which time the adjacent land was described as 'waste'.

Plans were drawn up shortly after 1867 for the development of this area as an extension of the town. The area to the north of Orford Road was eventually developed but, other than the houses on Manor Terrace, very little was built in the area of the Martello Tower.

Throughout the 19th and 20th century the area has been site of intermittent military use with occasional encampments by the Volunteer Force (later the Territorial Army) and the installation of temporary defences during World Wars I and II. The tower itself was virtually obsolete by the time it was completed as Napoleon and France had been defeated and was taken over by the coastguard service sometime in the early 19th century. A terrace of five houses, later known as 'Coastguard Cottages', were built adjacent the tower in c.1887 (demolished 2008).

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries the tower was used as a Naval Wireless Station and supported at least one large mast type antenna with cable stays. A machine gun emplacement was added to the top of the tower during World War I (Millward 2007).

A Royal Observer Corps (ROC) post was established in the tower during World War II. This was later relocated into a purpose built underground bunker situated within the eastern corner of the 'military compound'. The bunker is extant but has been sealed.

The tower continued in use as a Coastguard Station and is now used by volunteers of the National Coastwatch Institution. It is in relatively good condition although it has lost the outer layer of brickwork, which has left the stonework surrounds of the windows and the door standing proud. Most of the outer surface has then been rendered with 'pebble-dash' whilst the lower section has been refaced in brick. What appears to be a section of the original brick face can be seen below the doorway to the rear of the tower (plate 33).



## 4. Methodology

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A topographical survey was initially carried out to inform the proposed trench locations. This was undertaken using LIDAR data (Light Detection And Ranging) taken from the Environment Agency's LIDAR data archive to produce both a 3D terrain model and a vertical view detailing height variation with the aim of identifying specific areas of interest.

The trial trenches were machine excavated down to the level of the natural subsoil using a large (13 tonne) tracked machine fitted with a 1.9m wide toothless ditching bucket. The location of the trenches was in accordance with a plan approved by the County Archaeological Service Conservation Team. The trenches were positioned using GPS equipment prior to their excavation.

The machining of the trenches was closely observed throughout in order to identify any archaeological features and deposits and to recover any artefacts that might be revealed. Excavation continued until undisturbed natural deposits were encountered, the exposed surface of which was then examined for cut features. Any features or significant deposits identified were sampled through hand excavation where possible, in order to determine their depth and shape and to recover datable artefacts. A sample of the fill was also retained for any further analysis that may be deemed necessary. Due to the unstable nature of the sand and shingle that made up the evaluation area it was not always possible to undertake hand excavation in all cases. Consequently, some larger features were carefully excavated by machine and then photographically recorded with appropriate scales in place.

Following excavation of a trench, the nature of the overburden was recorded and the depths noted. A photographic record of the work undertaken was compiled using a 10 megapixel digital camera. Upon completion of the recording work the trench was backfilled.

## 5. Results

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### 5.1 Topographic survey

LIDAR data from the Environment Agency data archive was analysed prior to the commencement of the trenched evaluation with the aim of informing the trench plan. A 3D terrain model of the site was constructed (fig. 2) as well as a vertical view of the site (fig. 3).

A number of features can be seen in the vertical plot and the 3D model but these are the result of modern activity or are related to known features (such as fences, shrubs, hedges, anti-traveller ditches etc.). An area of disturbance was noted around the tower, which may be indicative of an earthwork, and the earthwork over the ROC bunker was visible but no other features of archaeological significance could be identified.

It should be noted that at the time of the LIDAR survey the northern area was in use by contractors undertaking a large-scale coastal defence project. Accommodation huts, cars, machinery and a large stockpile of rock can be seen.

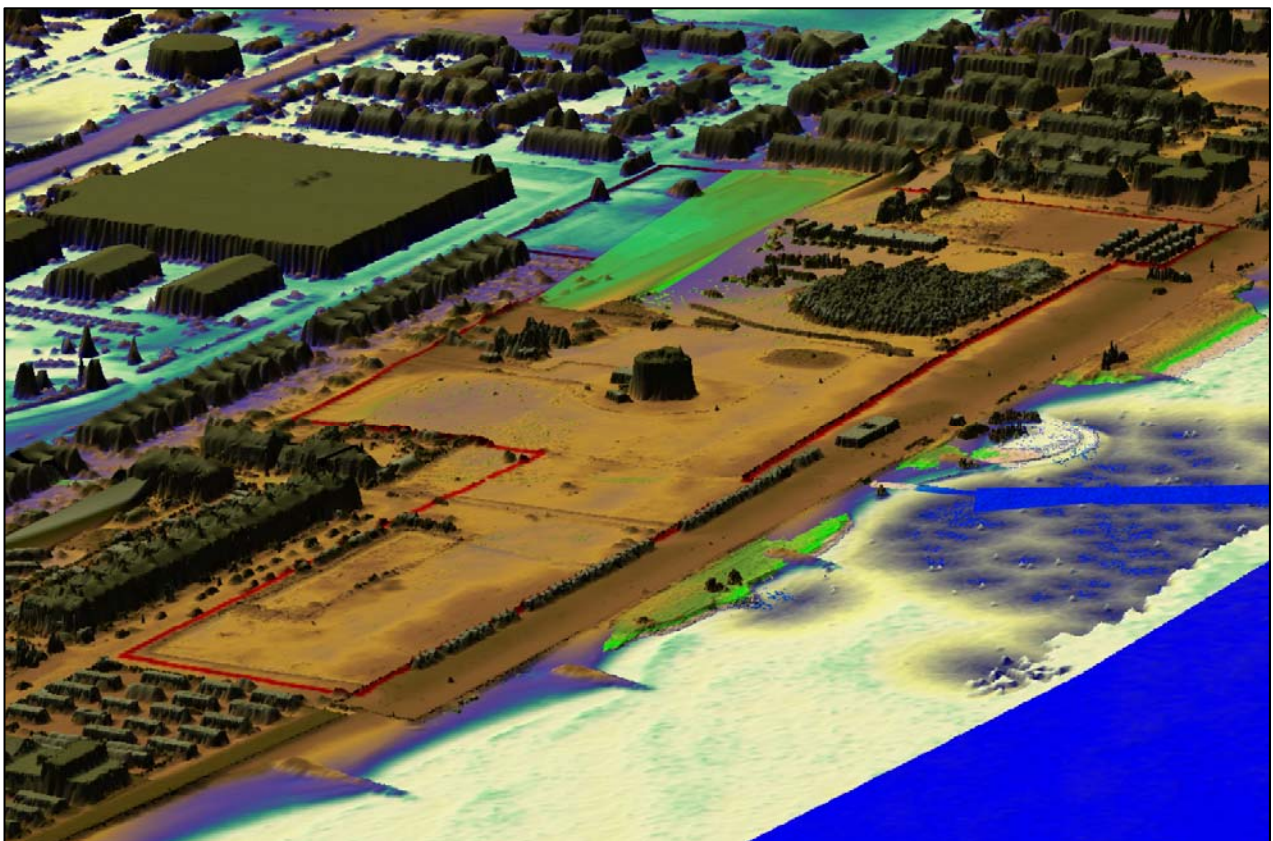


Figure 2. LIDAR 3D terrain model, looking north (site outline in red)



Figure 3. vertical LIDAR plot with proposed trench locations

## 5.2 Trench results

A total of forty-one evaluation trenches, out of a planned forty-two, were excavated; see figure 4 for a plan of the trenches and a summary of the results.

In twenty-eight of the excavated trenches natural deposits of sand and shingle were exposed beneath a thin layer of sandy topsoil and with the exception of occasional, clearly modern disturbances or deposits they contained no significant archaeological features. These trenches will not be discussed any further. Trench 5 was positioned to test for the tower ditch but the results of other trenches indicated it would not be present within this trench. Also this trench passed close to a small brick structure, believed to be an access point to services, and would have run across an area of hardstanding. Therefore it was not excavated in order to avoid unnecessary risk to buried services and to prevent damage to the parking area in front of the tower.

Thirteen trenches did yield results worthy of presentation and discussion, they are described below:

5.2.1 Trench 1: This trench was positioned to cut across the tarmac roadway that enters the site although this was found to be impractical due to the roadway being in regular use by the Coastwatch group. Consequently the trench was cut up against the edge of the roadway in an attempt to reveal a section through its make up. This was duly done which revealed that roadway comprised a spread of rubble (mostly soft red bricks). This had been overlain by a thin layer of yellow sand to form a level base onto which the present tarmac road surface had been laid (plate 1).

A service duct consisting of a cast iron pipe was noted running parallel with the road 2.7m from its southern edge. It was found to contain a series of three or four wire cables coated in an oil or grease. These were left *in-situ* (plate 2).

5.2.2 Trench 3: This trench was excavated to investigate the site of a possible ROC bunker. Towards the southern end of the trench a large disturbance was encountered (plate 3). It measured approximately 7m wide and 3m deep and was cut into the unstable sand and shingle deposits resulting in numerous collapses

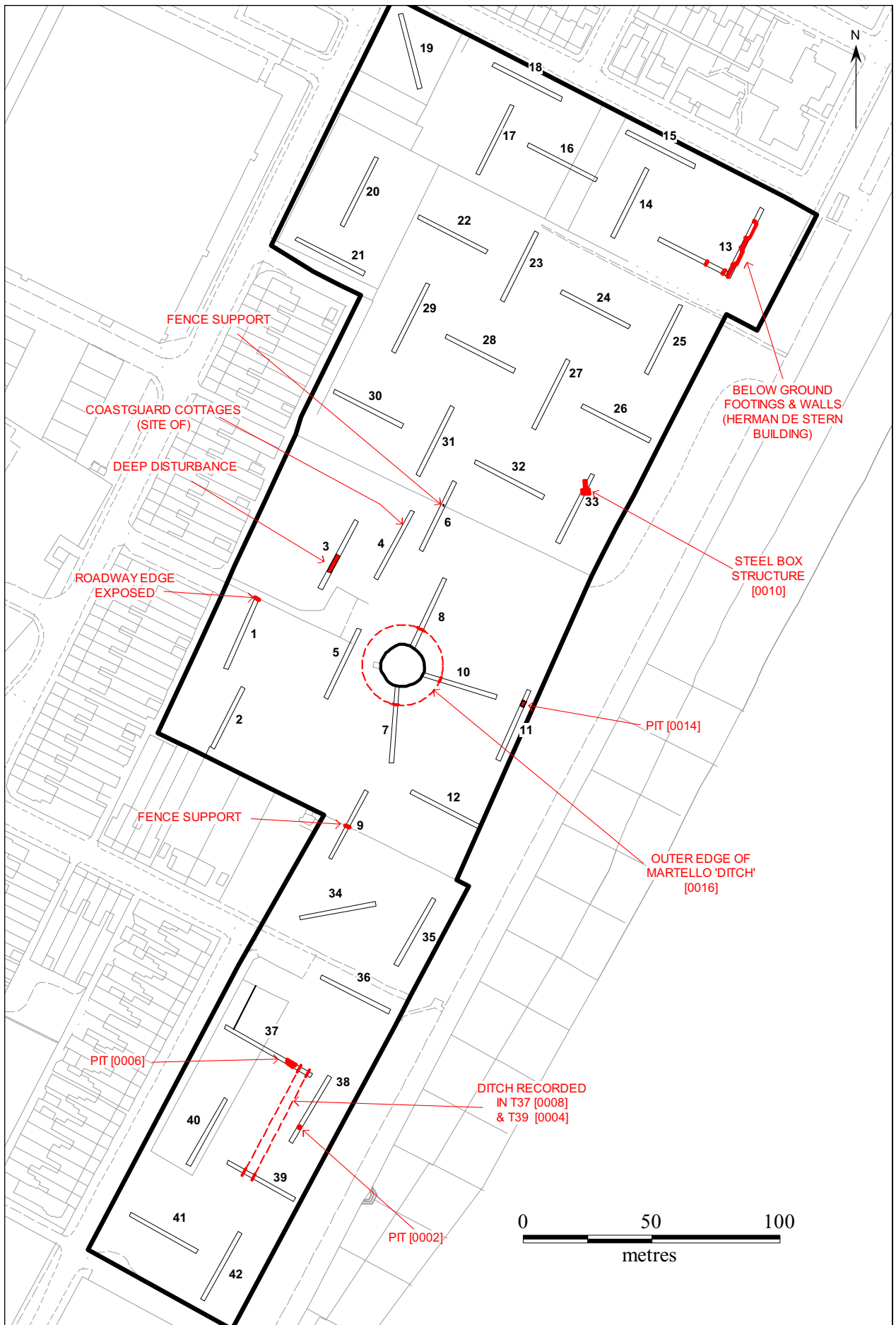


Figure 4. Trench plan and summary of results

during the excavation. The fill comprised yellow-brown sand and shingle with very occasional fragments of broken concrete and a cast iron manhole cover.

5.2.3 Trench 4: This trench was excavated across the site of the demolished Coastguard Cottages to assess what remains may be extant. Upon excavation it was readily apparent the ground level along the entire length of the trench had been truncated to a depth of c. 0.9m below the present ground surface. This truncation had then been filled with a 0.2m thick layer of crushed brick rubble and overlain with a thick deposit of topsoil (plate 4).

5.2.4 Trenches 6 and 9: These two trenches were excavated to investigate the 'military compound' boundary and to investigate the existence of any boundary. In Trench 6 a single feature comprising a circular bowl shaped posthole was recorded (0.8m diameter, 0.4m deep; Plate 5). The panels of railing between each upright were recorded elsewhere on site and found to be 2.75m wide (plate 6). A section of the iron railing fence was extant immediately adjacent the trench and it was quickly established that the posthole located within the trench was in the correct location for the next upright.

In Trench 9 a length of what appeared to be a concrete wall was present (plate 7 and fig. 5 for the recorded section). It measured 0.15m wide and was 0.67 m high with the upper edge flush with the ground surface. Protruding from the top face of the concrete were the rusted remains of part of an upright. The concrete was situated within a linear cut 1.7m wide and had clearly been poured *in-situ* into a shuttered moulding. A horizontal line in the concrete at about half the height indicated the forming of this support had been carried out in two stages.

No evidence for any earlier method of marking or protecting the boundary was identified within either trench.

It was noted during the evaluation that some of the uprights forming the fence are stamped with what are probably details of the manufacturer; unfortunately the two examples seen were so obscured by thick paint as to be illegible.

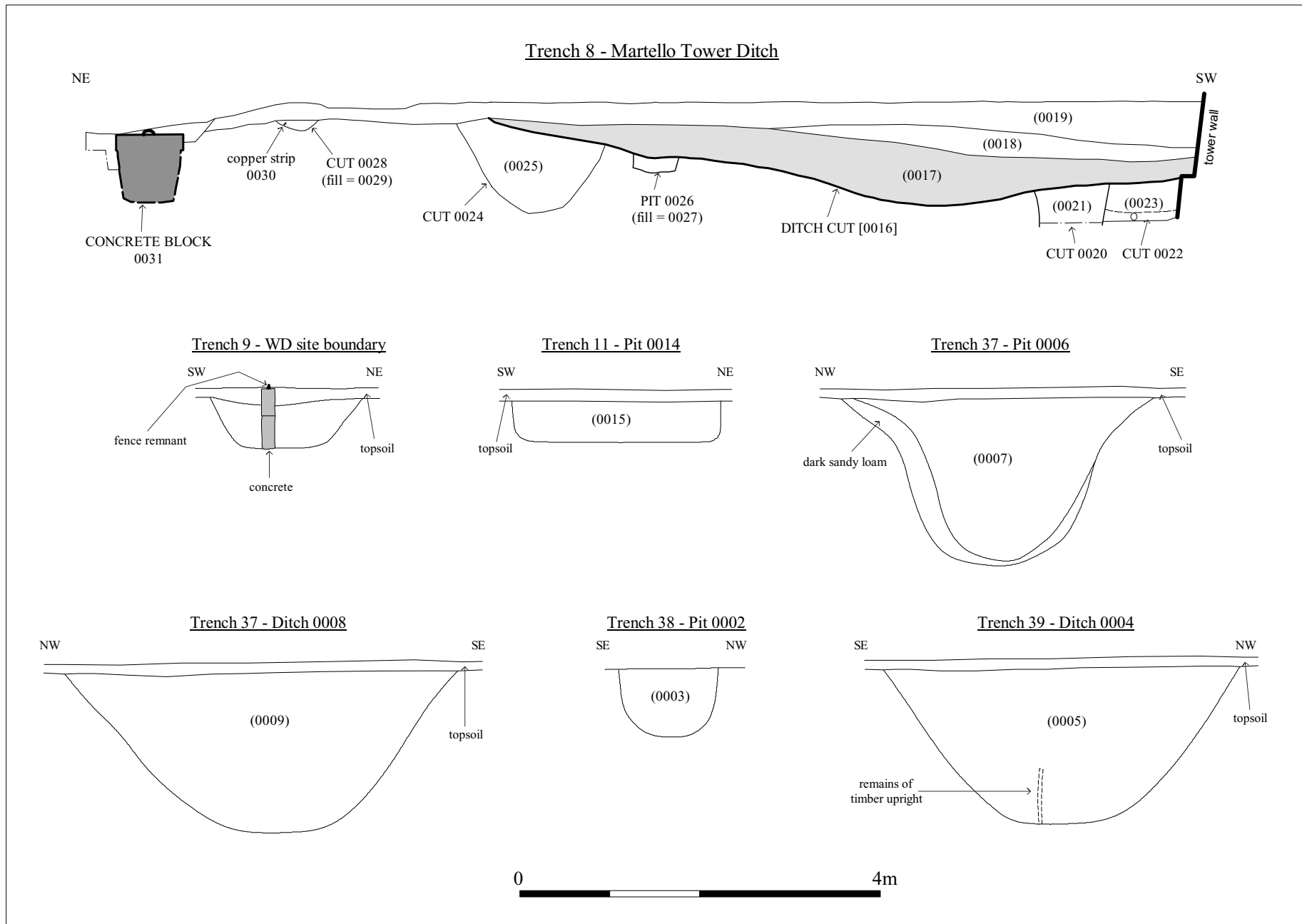


Figure 5. Sections

5.2.5 Trenches 7, 8 and 10: These three trenches were excavated in a pattern radiating from the Martello Tower and were cut with the aim of investigating any surrounding ditch or moat that may be present. All were around the maximum depth for safe working and given the unstable nature of the natural deposits only the section revealed by Trench 8 was drawn. Trenches 7 and 10 were only recorded photographically with scales in place. Plans of these trenches have since been constructed from measurements made at the time (figs. 6, 7 and 8)

Trench 8 was the first of the three to be excavated and it revealed a number of features which were seen in plan and recorded in section (see fig. 5). The first layer removed was a layer of topsoil (0019). This was c. 0.2m thick increasing to 0.5m thick immediately adjacent the tower as the underlying deposit dipped down. The topsoil was notably thicker than the topsoil revealed in all other trenches within the evaluation area. A wide cut (context no. 0016) was revealed which interpreted as a ditch (plate 8). It measured 7.8m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.85m below the level of the overlying topsoil (c. 1.1m from ground level). Two distinct fills were evident. The lower fill (0017) consisted of a thick deposit of dark sandy loam that was notably darker close to the interface with the overlying layer, which consisted of a banded deposit of pale yellow and brown sands with a high proportion of red brick rubble and clearly modern debris including plastic coated wire fencing and plastic bags/sheeting (0018).

In both Trench 7 and Trench 10 the ditch, as seen in Trench 8, was present (plates 9 & 10) indicating that it was a continuous feature that ran around the entire circumference of the tower. The profile was little changed although its width varied slightly being 7.1m wide on Trench 7 and 6.9m wide in Trench 10. The fills were also similar although in Trench 7 the modern debris layer (0018) was made up almost entirely building rubble that clearly came from a demolished toilet block (many porcelain toilet and sink fragments). Also of interest in Trench 7 was the presence of an *in-situ* concrete manhole surround (0036) located immediately adjacent the tower at a depth of 0.9m below the present ground level (plate 11).



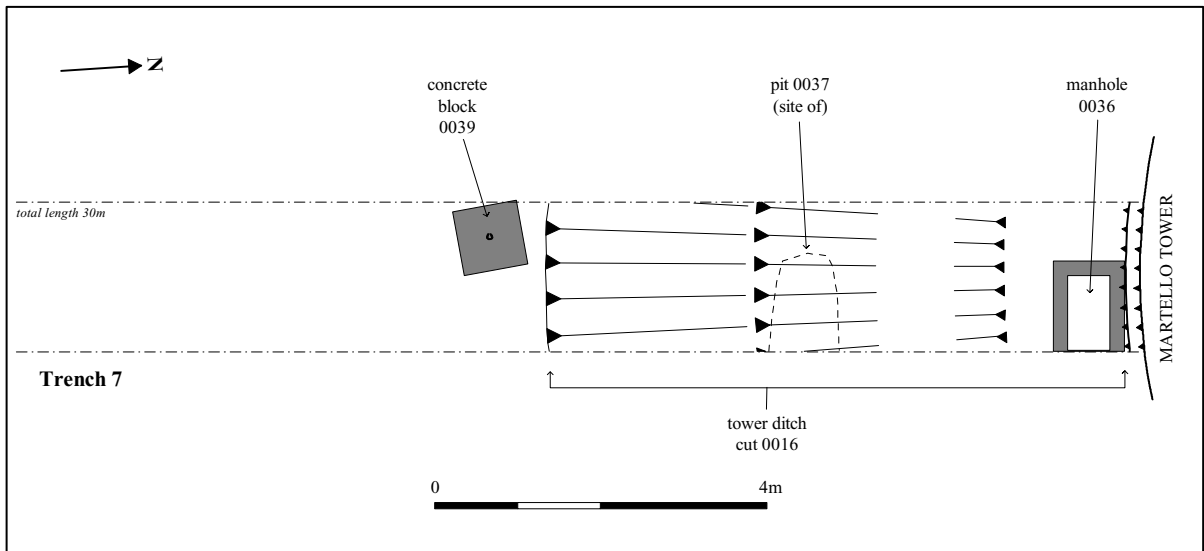


Figure 6. plan of Trench 7

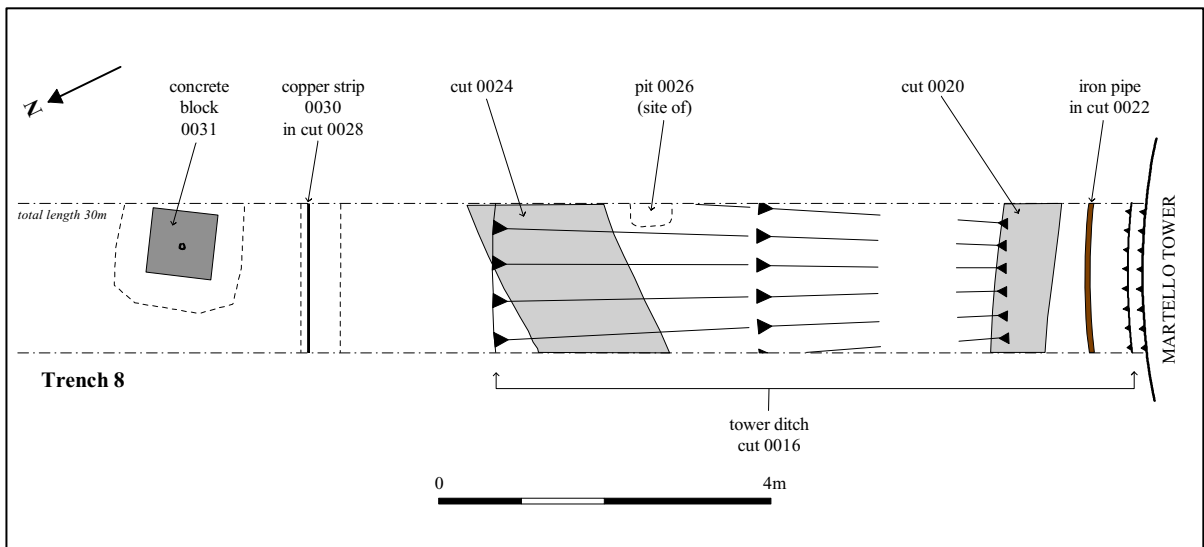


Figure 7. plan of Trench 8

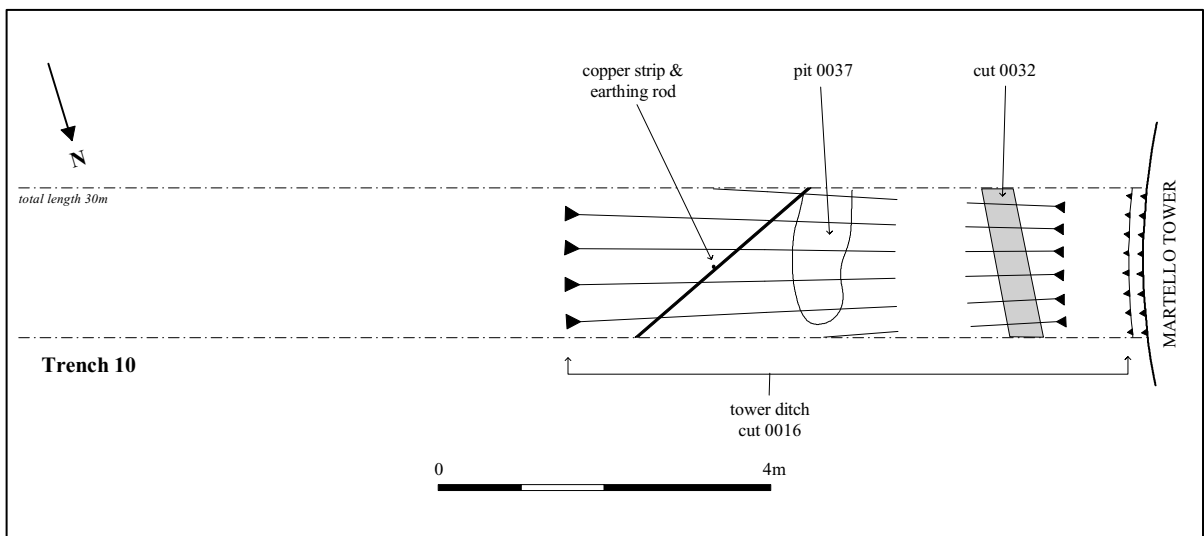


Figure 8. plan of Trench 10

A number of features were cut into the base of the ditch all of which were sealed by the lower ditch fill. These are described as follows:

In Trench 8, immediately adjacent the tower a pair of linear cuts interpreted as service trenches were present (plate 12). The earliest of the two, (0022) had a fill of brown sand with occasional shingle (0023). The very bottom of the cut was filled with redeposited natural sand and shingle and an iron or steel pipe, c. 80mm in diameter, ran long the base of the cut. A slight curve, which matched the curve of the tower, was evident in the pipe. This feature was cut by an adjacent, near sheer sided, feature (0020) which was also interpreted as a service trench running tangentially to the tower. The fill (0021) comprised a brown sand and shingle. This feature was not bottomed.

Also in Trench 8 a small rectangular pit (0026) with a fill of charcoal rich sand was cut into the outer slope of the ditch (plate 13). The fill had clearly settled over time resulting in the overlying ditch fill having partially subsided into the cut.

Again in Trench 8, a 1.1m wide cut (0024), interpreted as a probable service trench, was partially located under the fill of the tower ditch (plate 13). The fill consisted of a pale brown and yellow sand and shingle with slight banding. This feature was aligned east to west and cut across the trench at an angle. Although this feature was believed to have been bottomed no obvious service was seen.

In Trench 8, lying beyond the outer edge of the tower ditch, was a shallow cut (0028) running perpendicular to the trench. It had a bowl shaped profile and measured 0.47m wide and 0.12m deep. The fill (0029) comprised a dark sandy loam and with sand and shingle (plate 14). Running longitudinally within the cut lay a strip of bright copper (0030), measuring c. 5mm thick and 25mm wide. It ran the full width of the trench and continued beyond both edges. A similar copper strip was also present in Trench 10 where it ran at an angle to the trench on a north-east to south-west alignment. It appeared to be running down the side of the ditch so that at its south-western end it was at a depth of c. 0.8m below the present ground surface. In this instance it actually comprised of two lengths of copper strip that had been jointed, together with a copper coated steel rod, by a metal clamp (plate 15). The rod, which was c. 10mm in diameter and 1.2m in

length, had been driven vertically into the ground. The copper strip was not encountered in Trench 7.

Situated just below the present ground surface in Trench 8, at a distance of 11.6m from the tower, a concrete block (0031) was exposed. It was square in plan and measured 0.78m by 0.78m. An iron loop was set in the centre of the smoothly finished top surface (plate 16). Hand excavation revealed it to have smooth sides for a depth of c. 0.15m beyond which the surface was extremely irregular. A similar concrete block (0039) was noted in Trench 7 (plate 17). It was situated closer to the tower, being set at a distance of only c. 7.4m. This block lay within the trench and was consequently removed during excavation; it was replaced during the backfilling operation within c. 0.5m of its original location.

Two other pits were noted cut into the base of the ditch and sealed by the ditch fill; one in Trench 7 (0037; plate 18) and one in Trench 10 (0033; plate 19). Both were elongated ovals in shape that went beyond the limits of the trenches. Their fills consisted primarily of ash, charcoal and occasional sawn fragments of animal rib bones and late 19th century bottles and jars.

Also in trench 10 a probable service trench (0032) was sealed beneath the ditch fill (plate 20). Due to the depth of the trench this feature was not subjected to any systematic investigation.

The excavation of these trenches exposed the normally below ground portion of the Martello Tower and its footing (plate 21). The lower third of the tower is faced with brickwork which appears to be a later addition. Just below the present ground level this brick face steps out and continues down to a footing which forms a further step. Due to the unstable nature of the trench at this depth it was only possible to view the footing from the top of the trench from where it appeared to consist of large pieces of pale grey stone (possibly septaria) in a hard ?cement.

5.2.6 Trench 11: This trench was excavated to investigate the site of a boat house and gun shed, as marked on a plan of 1866 (Hradsky, 2012). A single pit (0014) was noted in the approximate area of the gun shed (plate 22). It was rectangular in

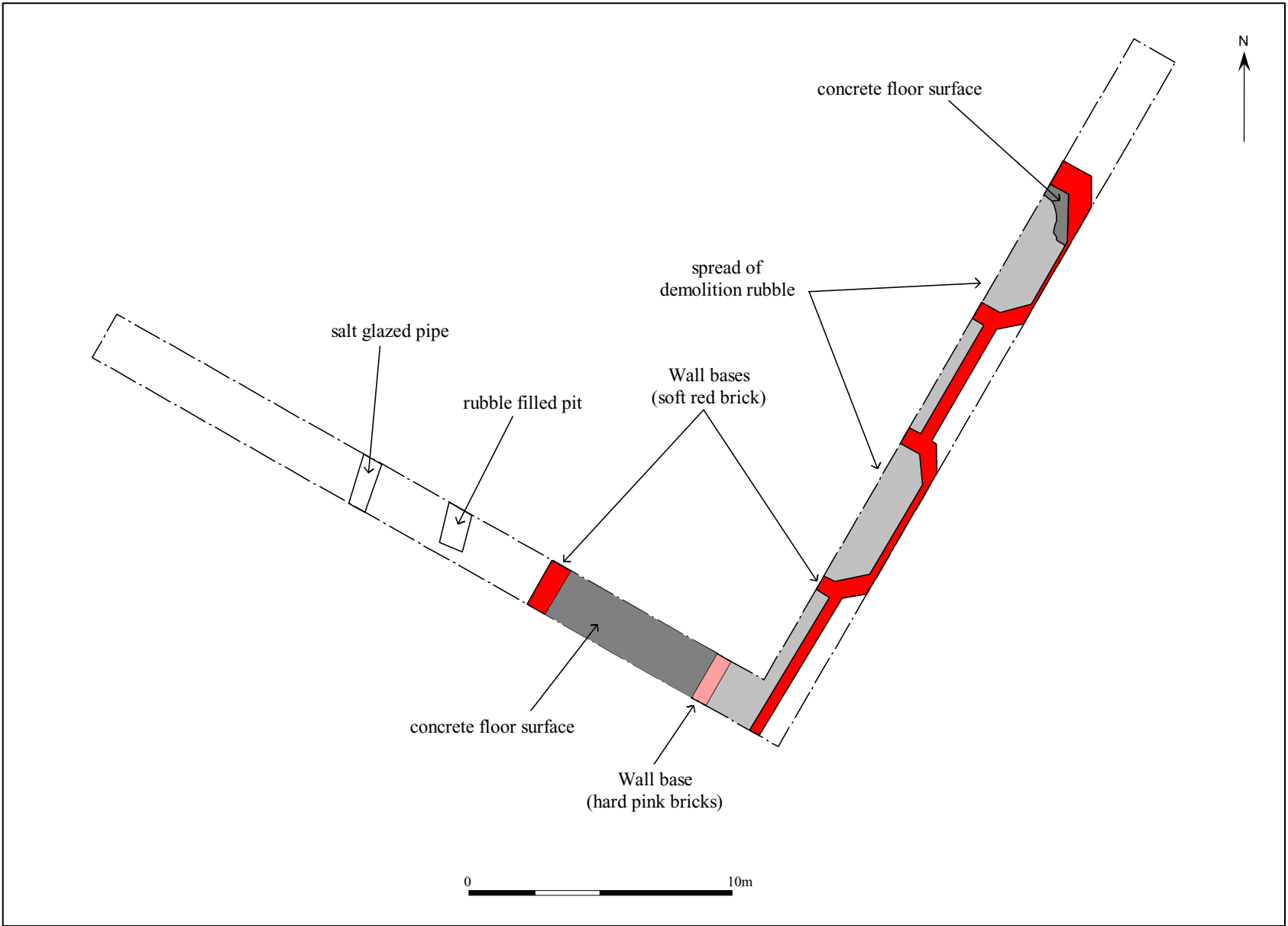


Figure 9. Trench 13, remains of the Herman de Stern Convalescence Home

shape and cut the sand and shingle to a depth of 0.45m (see fig. 5 for the recorded section). The fill (0015) consisted of a pale grey sand and shingle.

5.2.7 Trench 13: This trench was cut across the site of the Herman de Stern convalescence home to assess what if any remains existed. After removal of the topsoil and a mesh mat wall bases, footings and areas of concrete flooring associated with the building were present (see fig, 9 and plates 23 & 24). The tops of many of the wall bases were encountered at a depth of c. 0.4m below the present ground level; the floors lay at a depth of c. 0.8m. The majority of the walls were constructed of late 19th century soft red bricks although a later alteration was marked by a wall of modern of modern hard pink bricks. A rectangular pit, probably the remains of a manhole, and a salt glazed drain pipe were noted in the area to the rear of the building.

5.2.8 Trench 33: Within this trench a rectangular, partially sunken structure (0010) was recorded (plate 25). After its initial discovery the trench was expanded and the sides then battered to allow access to enable further investigation.

It was found that the structure enclosed a rectangular area measuring 2.5m by 1.6m, the base of which lay at a depth of c. 1.5m below the present ground surface (fig. 10). The walls, which revetted the loose sand and shingle, were constructed of a series of sand and shingle filled metal tin boxes, measuring 0.29m by 0.29m by 0.53m, standing upright (plates 26 & 27). Only a single course of the tin/boxes were positively identified. It was filled with a homogenous deposit of grey sand and shingle (0011). An entrance passage, marked by an the grey sand and shingle fill and partially by further tin boxes, was present on the northern side. It measured 0.95m in width and extended for at least 3m. No tin boxes were present in the northern corner of the structure although its limits could be determined by the extent of the fill. It is assumed that further tin boxes would have been present but that these had been removed, presumably after the structure had fallen out of use. A near complete tin box was recovered from the fill which may have originated from this area.

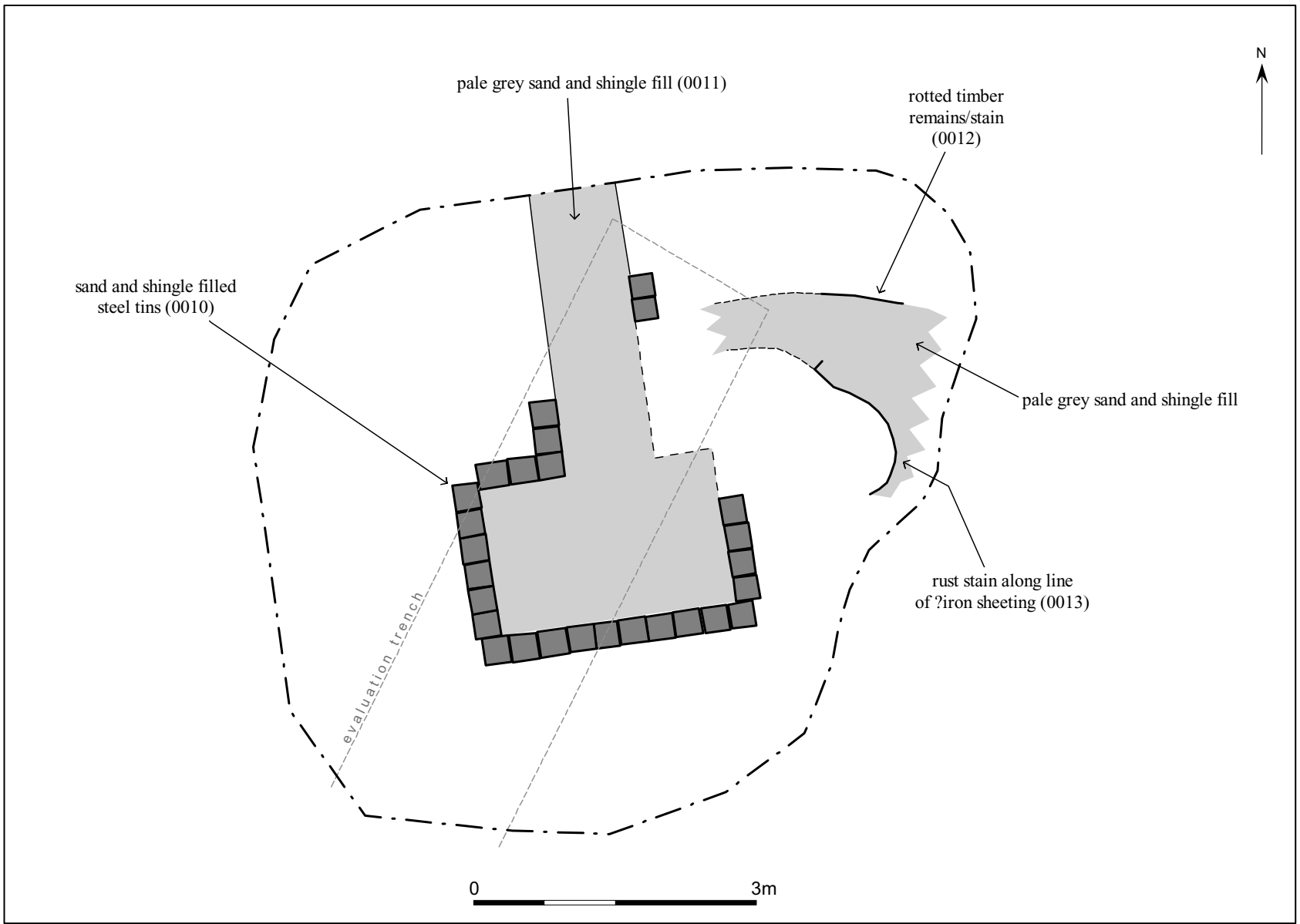


Figure 10. Trench 33, plan of possible bunker and adjacent trench

Within the grey sand and shingle fill of the structure a number of lengths of barbed wire, a section of angled iron (possibly the leg of a table or similar), and the remains of one of the tin boxes were recovered. Beneath the fill only clean sand and shingle was revealed and no formal floor surface was identified within the structure or beneath the tin box walls. It was also discovered that only the very bottoms of most the tin boxes had survived.

Situated to the east of the structure a length of degraded timber, probably a plank (0012) and a rust stain marking the site of a probable iron/steel sheet (0013) were recorded (plate 28). The area between these two elements comprised of a fill of pale grey sand and shingle with an area of darker sand. Although it was not conclusively traced, this appeared to extend to the west to join with the structure's entrance passage at a right angle. The eastern extent of this feature was not determined.

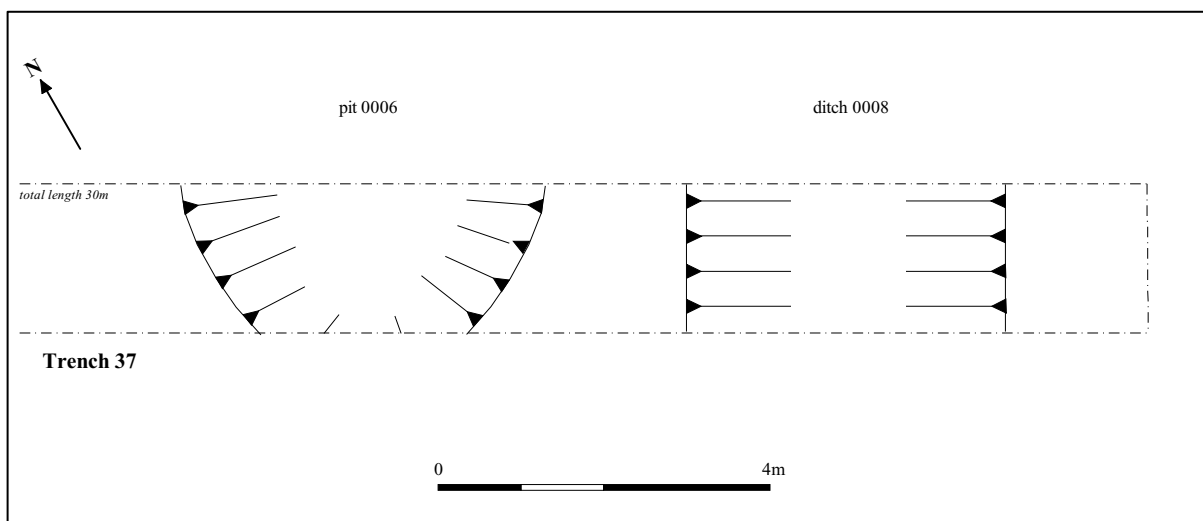


Figure 11. plan of Trench 37

5.2.9 Trench 37: This trench (fig. 11) contained a large, oval shaped pit (0006) which extended across the full width of the trench. It had a width of c. 3.5m and a depth of 2m (see figure 5 for the recorded section and plate 29). Considering the unstable nature of the sand and shingle the sides were relatively steep although they flared out towards the top edge. The fill consisted of pale grey sand and shingle with a layer of brown clayey loam against the north-western side of the pit.

This trench also revealed a large linear feature interpreted as a ditch (0008). It measured 4.3m in width and was cut to a depth of 1.8m (see figure 5 for the recorded section and plate 30). The sides were angled at approximately 45 degrees and the base was relatively flat. The fill (0009) consisted of pale grey sand and shingle.

5.2.10 Trench 38: A single circular pit (0002), measuring 1.1m in diameter and 0.75m deep, was identified within this trench (see figure 5 for the recorded section and plate 31). The fill (0003) consisted of grey sand and shingle from which a small number of pottery sherds and fragments of floor tile were recovered.

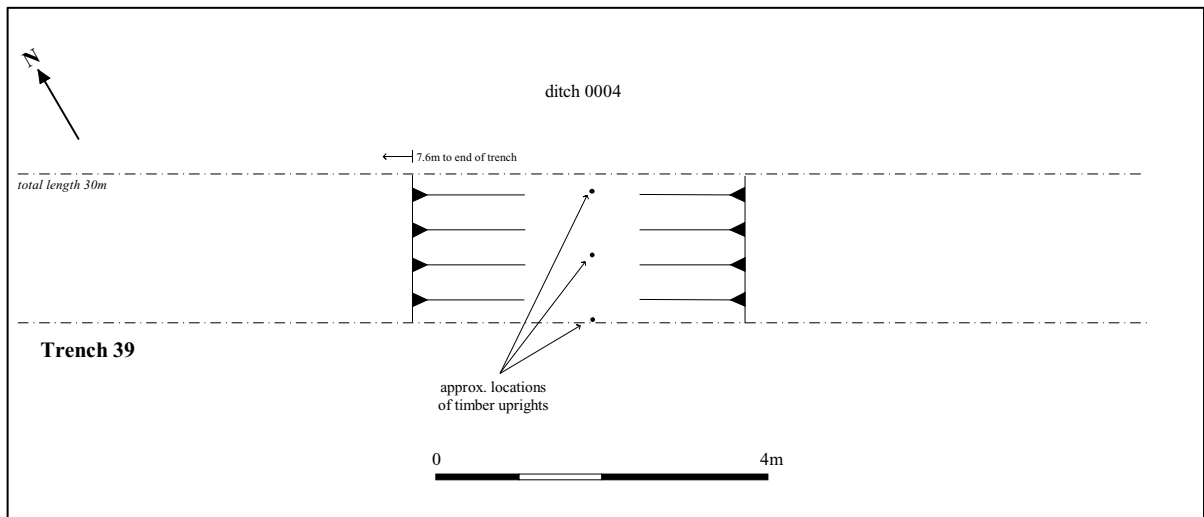


Figure 12. plan of Trench 39

5.2.11 Trench 39: This trench (fig. 12) revealed a large linear feature interpreted as a ditch (0004). It measured 4m in width and was cut to a depth of 1.8m (see figure 5 for the recorded section and plate 32). The sides were angled at approximately 45 degrees and the base was flat. The fill (0005) consisted of pale grey sand and shingle. A series of three degraded narrow timber uprights were noted driven into the base of this feature. These were set c. 0.7m apart and stood to a height of c. 0.6m. Due to the depth and unstable nature of the natural subsoil it was not possible to enter the feature to undertake a full record of these components.



## 6. Finds and environmental evidence

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Richenda Goffin

### 6.1 Introduction

Context	Pottery		Glass		Misc	Date range
	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)		
0003	3	15	2	18	Asbestos frags	20th C
0009	1	98				20th C
0011					Metal objects	20th C
0034			5	993	1 metal can @ 68g	20th C
0037	1	813	5	1066		20th C
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2077</b>		

Table 1. Finds quantities

### 6.2 The Pottery

A total of five sherds of late post-medieval pottery was recovered from the evaluation, weighing 926g. The pottery came from five trenches.

A complete English stoneware jar without its lid was found in the fill 0038 of pit 0037 in Trench 7. Three small body sherd of plain white refined white earthenware was collected from pit fill 0003 in Trench 38. A large fragment of an English stoneware jam or marmalade jar was identified in the ditch fill 0009 in Trench 37. All the pottery dates to the twentieth century.

### 6.3 Glass

A number of glass bottles and containers were recovered from the evaluation, many of which are complete.

Three small slightly green coloured identical bottles which still have the remains of the labels on the front were found in ditch fill 0037 in Trench 7. Unfortunately their labels are undecipherable. In addition a larger plain glass jar with a label saying 'Plum and Apple Jam' and 'International Stores' is still visible. A small bottle made from transparent glass was also present which is similar to a modern vanilla essence bottle.

More glass bottles were found in pit fill 0034 in Trench 10. These consisted of a complete small green bottle of lung tonic with Owbridge's Hull embossed on one side (Height 130mm), a complete cobalt blue glass poison bottle with prominent ridges down two sides, with F or E embossed on the base (Height 165mm). Other bottles include a slightly green glass bottle with Goodhall Backhouse & Co embossed on the side (Height 192mm), probably for Yorkshire Relish and a wider flask shaped green bottle with a height of 160mm which is probably a milk bottle. Lastly a small plain transparent glass ink bottle with a height of 52mm was found in the pit.

Three fragments of undiagnostic clear glass of twentieth century date was identified in pit fill 0003 in Trench 38.

#### **6.4 Iron objects**

A rusty tin of health salts was present in pit fill 0034 in Trench 10.

A number of pieces of rusty barbed wire were retained from the sunken rectangular feature in Trench 33 (Plate 34). They are assumed to date to WWII, but no barbed wire classifications could be found to describe and date the wire accurately.

Several fragments of an iron box were also recovered (Plate 35). These boxes seem to have been used filled with sand to act as structural elements for the bunker.

#### **6.5 Discussion of material evidence**

Quantities of domestic glass bottles were recovered from the two trenches 7 and 10 associated with the Martello Tower. The iron boxes and the barbed wire came from the partially sunken structure (0010) and probably date to World War II.

## 7. Discussion

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Although the majority of the trenches excavated within the proposed development were negative as regards archaeological evidence, a number of interesting features were identified.

### 7.1 Features related to the Martello Tower

One of the main questions relating to the tower was whether it had been surrounded by a ditch or moat. The excavation of Trenches 7, 8 and 10 have clearly proven that an encircling ditch is indeed present although it is not a substantial feature. It measures approximately 7m in width, a dimension which corresponds with a circular feature indicated on the 1st and 3rd Edition Ordnance Survey maps of the site. The actual form of this earthwork comprises a roughly level berm located adjacent to the tower. It measures approximately 1.5m in width and is 0.8m lower than the nearby ground level. Moving away from the tower the ground then dips into a shallow ditch before climbing up a gentle slope to the outer edge of the ditch some 7m from the tower. In Trench 8 a very slight possible bank was also visible before the land sloped down again slightly to the north. The primary fill of the ditch is a thick deposit of a naturally accruing topsoil which would have built up over a number of years. It would seem probable that any earthwork would have been maintained during the early military life of the tower and that this topsoil build up has occurred in the later half of the 19th century. A number of service trenches and pits are cut into the bottom of the tower ditch and these appear to be sealed by the lower ditch fill indicating they are early or that the topsoil infill is relatively late although it is possible that some of these features are cut partially through the basal layer but these cuts cannot be detected.

The ditch around the tower would have appeared as a surrounding depression sloping down towards the tower until relatively recently, judging by the extremely modern nature of the upper layer of fill, before it was finally levelled to give its present appearance. In Trench 7 a modern manhole was noted adjacent to the tower. This would have been at ground level when it was in use but was buried to a depth of c. 0.8m by a mass of material from a demolished toilet block and a layer of what is probably imported topsoil during the final levelling process (the rubble probably originated from a toilet block that

used to stand just to the south the 'military compound'), the floor is still *in situ* just to the west of Trench 9.

The two pits containing bottles, jars and numerous rib bone fragments may relate to intermittent encampments within the 'military compound' by the army or possibly the local Volunteer Force in the late 19th century.

The other significant features noted within two of the trenches are the strips of copper and the concrete blocks with iron loops. These are related to the tower's use as a Naval Wireless Station during the late 19th and early 20th century. The copper strips and the rod are undoubtedly components of a 'ground plane' upon which certain antenna are dependant (typically vertical monopole antennas of the type liable to have been used on this site). It would have consisted of a series of interconnected wires or copper strips, connected to grounding rods, running from the antenna for a distance equivalent to the antenna's height. The concrete blocks would have been for tethering guide wires that would have held the antenna mast. The blocks had been cast *in-situ* into a roughly square hole with shuttering around the upper edges to give the smooth finish. During the evaluation it was noted that a number of other probable tethering blocks and supports and a mast base were present in the open ground around the tower.

## **7.2 Features within the 'military compound'**

The roadway appeared to consist of a spread of rubble, primarily from soft red bricks, which forms a sub-base for the tarmac surfaced road. The brick rubble may have predated the tarmac as a roadway in its own right or was laid in conjunction with the tarmac. The original access road to the tower was probably not of any formal construction; there is no trackway indicated on the 1866 plan. The construction of a roadway is probably associated with the building of the Coastguard Cottages. The cast iron cable duct running parallel to the road does not appear to serve the Martello Tower but is probably associated with the extant ROC bunker in the eastern corner of the 'military compound' and would have provided access to the telephone network as well as a direct contact with a central command.

The rectangular pit noted in Trench 11, in the vicinity of a gun shed marked on a plan of 1866 is probably not related to that building. Although both the pit and the gun shed are

rectangular they are on completely different alignments. This pit was undated but was of a modern appearance. It may be related to works associated with the adjacent seawall.

The two trenches cut across the 'military compound' boundary did not reveal any evidence for a delineating feature earlier than the fence. Although other Martello Towers are within a compound marked by a ditch (such as Tower AA at Shingle Street) it would appear that the surrounding compound on this site was indicated by the boundary stones alone. A plan of c. 1831 and the 1866 plan show the boundary stones but the boundary itself is indicated by dotted lines. It is not until the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1886 that a solid line, suggesting a fence, possibly the fence of which remnants are still extant, is used to mark the boundary.

The iron railing fence consists of steel uprights to which preformed panels of railing are attached. In Trench 6 the site of an upright was indicated by a bowl shaped posthole. It is probable that the upright was set in concrete which has been pulled out with the upright when it was removed. In Trench 9 it could be seen that an upright had been set within a narrow buried concrete wall. The variation in methods cannot be readily explained although it is possible that the length in Trench 9 had required re-erecting at some time and was done in such a way as to negate the need for further work. Alternatively, the concrete could have been to dissuade tunnelling from rabbits which was possibly not such a problem on the town side of the 'military compound'.

Trench 3 was excavated to test for a possible ROC bunker location. Although a large disturbance was noted it was not of large enough proportions to construct an underground bunker and no evidence of a bunker was revealed. During the evaluation the author was introduced to a gentleman who had served in the known ROC bunker on the site and to his knowledge no other bunkers had ever existed at this site. This disturbance lies close to the site of an aircraft crash that destroyed parts of the original terrace of houses during World War II and it is just possible that this disturbance is related to the recovery of wreckage although there was no positive evidence for this.

The results revealed in Trench 4 indicated that all components of the Coastguard Cottages had been removed. Only broken brick fragments remained suggesting that the original building materials were removed for reuse during demolition.

### 7.3 Other features

The tin box structure noted in Trench 33 (0010) is probably associated with coastal defence during World War II. It is possibly a small emplacement for a machine gun or an observation post. It is probably associated with other trenches as suggested by the timber and iron features to the east which are undoubtedly revetting a trench. It is unlikely the structure had a substantial roof but some form of protection against the weather may have been in place. The unusual nature of its construction could suggest it was built and manned by the Home Guard rather than enlisted members of the British Army. The tin boxes used for its construction are probably cans for holding a liquid, such as oil or fuel, that have been collected and used to form this structure. After the war, it was probably quickly backfilled along with a few fragments of the barbed wire entanglements that crossed this area. Had it been open for any length of time after the war it is highly likely that there would be significantly more debris amongst the fill.

The ditch sections noted in Trenches 37 and 39 are of similar dimensions and are located the same distance back from the seafront suggesting they are parts of a single large ditch. This is also a probable World War II defence designed to slow down any attempts by an invading group of soldiers to advance off the beach. Such a feature would have been hard to detect until an invading force stumbled on it. The timber uprights noted in Trench 39 may have held lengths of barbed wire as an additional anti-personnel measure. Its full extent is unknown and it was not identified in any of the other evaluation trenches.

The large pit in Trench 37 (pit 0006) is undated and its purpose is unknown. The smaller pit in Trench 38 (pit 0002) contained fragments of floor tile. It was noted that additional fragments of the tile were present on the surface in the vicinity of this trench along with numerous concrete slabs and pathways. These may be associated with a group of beach huts that are known to have been located in this area although it is a suggestion that a number of Nissan huts used to be present in this part of the site.

The remains recorded in Trench 13 indicate that the demolition of the Herman de Stern building did not entail the systematic grubbing out of all footings and floor areas. It would seem probable that the entire building's footprint is extant just below the present topsoil.

## 8. Conclusions

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The evaluation has proven that the tower did have a surrounding ditch but that it was of quite modest dimensions. No large moat of the type seen at Tower Q to north was ever present at this site.

At least part of a ground plane associated with the tower's use as a wireless telegraphy station survives as a buried feature within the 'military compound'. A number of tethering points for the antenna's guide wires are visible on the surface and others also survive as buried features. At least one other mast base is extant on the ground within the 'military compound'.

The 'military compound' was not originally delineated by a formal boundary and was marked only by a series of boundary stones. It is not until the iron railing fence was erected that access to the site was controlled.

There are no extant remains of the Coastguard Cottages although the complete footprint of the Herman de Stern building does survive.

No evidence for structures within the 'military compound', as indicated on early plans, could be identified in the targeted trenches.

Evidence for defences during World War II survives in the form of a large ditch to the south of the Martello Tower and a probable bunker and trench system to the north. No evidence for the large scale barbed wire entanglements and scaffolding defences known to have existed within the site could be identified in the evaluation trenches.

There are a large number of concrete slabs and walkways in the area to the south of the Martello Tower, the significance of which is unknown.

## 9. Recommendations for further work

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- The numerous concrete pads and paths etc. located within the development area to the south of the Martello Tower should be plotted and attempts made to identify their purpose.
- There are also a number of concrete features (tethering points, mast bases etc.) within the 'military compound' around the Martello Tower. These should be recorded and plotted to enable further research into activities on and around the tower with particular reference to the site's use as a wireless telegraphy station.
- Any works undertaken in the vicinity of the tower should take into account the possible presence of the antenna's ground plane, which could extend for a considerable distance from the tower (equal to the antenna's height?), its location orientation, depth etc. should be recorded and if possible it should be preserved *in-situ*.
- The large defensive ditch in the southern area of the site should be further investigated. To confirm the presence of a fence of similar structure in the base a suitable length should hand excavated. To access its length and trace its full extent, an opportunity should be allowed for monitoring of any topsoil or ground strips undertaken in conjunction with the development of the site.
- Monitoring of any ground works, including soil strips, in the vicinity of the structure identified in Trench 33 should be undertaken in order to record any further structures or associated trench system that may be revealed. If significant ground disturbance is liable to occur in this area a limited open area excavation to ascertain the full extent of the bunker's entrance and the adjacent trench should be carried out.
- A record of the surviving sections of the iron railing fence surrounding the 'military compound' should be created. To include an overall plan, a photographic record and scaled drawings of the fence as a whole and a sample of the individual components that make up the fence (gates, posts, uprights, panels stays etc.). One of the maker's marks should be cleaned and recorded as an aid to dating the fence.



## 10. Archive deposition

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Historic Environment Record reference under which the archive is held: FEX 294.

The digital archive will be stored on the SCC secure servers at the location:

*R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Current Recording Projects\Felixstowe\FEX 294 Evaluation (South Seafront & Martello P)*

Digital photographs are held under the references HPK01 to HPL53

A summary of this project has been entered into OASIS, the online database, under the reference: suffolkc1-126465

## 11. Acknowledgements

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The evaluation was carried out by Tim Browne, Phil Camps, Tony Fisher and Mark Sommers from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

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

## 12. Bibliography

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Gardner, R., 2012, *South Seafront, Martello 'P', Felixstowe, Suffolk (WSI)*. Unpublished SCCAS report

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Millward, J., 2007, *An Assessment of the East Coast Martello Towers, A Desk-Top Assessment*. English Heritage



## 12. Plates

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(scales used are 1m or 2m in length divided into 0.5m sections; SCCAS photo refs. are in brackets)



Plate 1. Trench 1, section across edge of roadway (ref. HPK03)



Plate 2. Trench 1, cast iron cable duct (ref. HPK01)



Plate 3. Trench 3, large disturbance (ref. HPK05)



Plate 4. Trench 4, truncation within the footprint of the Coastguard Cottages (ref. HPK06)



Plate 5. Trench 6, fence upright post setting (ref. HPK07)



Plate 6. section of fence and gate adjacent the entrance (ref. HPL046)



Plate 7. Trench 9, concrete setting for fence upright (ref. HPK49)



Plate 8. Trench 8, Martello ditch (0016) as seen in section (ref. HPK44)



Plate 9. Trench 7, Martello ditch (0016) as seen in section (ref. HPK44)



Plate 10. Trench 10, Martello ditch (0016) as seen in section (ref. HPK51)



Plate 11. Trench 7, manhole (0036) noted within fill of the tower ditch (ref. HPK18)



Plate 12. Trench 8, service trenches 0020 (left) and 0022 (right) (ref. HPK25)





Plate 13. Trench 8, cut 0024 (left) and pit 0026m (right) (ref. HPK38)



Plate 14. Trench 8, cut 0028 with copper strip 0030 (ref. HPK34)



Plate 15. Trench 10, copper strip and copper coated earthing rod (ref. HPK57)



Plate 16. Trench 8, guide wire tethering block (0031) (ref. HPK33)



Plate 17. Trench 7, guide wire tethering block (0039) (ref. HPK21)



Plate 18. Trench 7, pit 0037 visible below the fill of the Martello ditch (ref. HPK15)



Plate 19. Trench 10, pit 0039 visible below the fill of the Martello ditch (ref. HPK53)



Plate 20. Trench 10, probable service trench visible below the fill of the Martello ditch (ref. HPK53)



Plate 21. Trench 10, below ground wall and footing of the Martello Tower (ref. HPK53)



Plate 22. Trench 11, pit 0014 visible in section (ref. HPK59)



Plate 23. Trench 13, below ground remains of the Herman de Stern building (ref. HPK61)



Plate 24. Trench 13, below ground remains of the Herman de Stern building (ref. HPK66)



Plate 25. Trench 33, structure 0010 as seen in the evaluation trench (ref. HPK77)



Plate 26. Trench 33, structure 0010 after full exposure (ref. HPL03)



Plate 27. Trench 33, structure 0010, close up of south-west corner showing the positioning of the metal tin boxes (scale = 30cm; ref. HPL08)



Plate 28. Trench 33, structure 0010 in the background with the probable trench revetted by timber (0012) and iron sheeting (0013) visible in the foreground (ref. HPK96)





Plate 29. Trench 37, pit 0006 (ref. HPL29)



Plate 30. Trench 37, ditch 0008 (ref. HPL35)



Plate 31. Trench 38, pit 0002 (ref. HPL35)



Plate 32. Trench 39, ditch 0004 (ref. HPL42)



Plate 33. Area of what is probably the original brick facing at the rear of the tower



Plate 34. Examples of barbed wire recovered from the fill of structure 0010



Plate 35. Fragmentary remains of one the boxes used to formed structure 0010



Plate 36. Excavation and recording in Trench 8



Plate 37. Backfilling of Trench 7



# Appendix 1. Brief and Specification

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## Brief and Specification for Archaeological Evaluation

### SOUTH SEAFRONT, MARTELLO 'P', FELIXSTOWE, SUFFOLK (C/05/1723/FUL)

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

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

1.1 A planning application [C/05/1723/FUL] has been made for redevelopment of land between Orford Road, Langer Road and Manor Terrace as Maritime Park and 158 dwellings. **Please contact the applicant for an accurate plan of the site.**

1.2 The Planning Authority has been advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins in accordance with PPS 5 *Planning for the Historic Environment* (Policy HE 12.3) to record and advance understanding of the significance of the heritage asset before it is damaged or destroyed.

1.3 The area of the development measures c.55,900 sq m. on the east side of Langer Road at c.3.50m OD. The underlying geology is a sand and gravel ridge with a thin sandy topsoil.

1.4 This application lies in an area of high archaeological interest, as demonstrated in the Archaeological Desk-based Assessment undertaken in 2008 (SCC Archaeological Report 2008/050; FEX 278). A magnetometer survey was undertaken by GSB Prospection Ltd in 2008 (Report 08/43) but this failed to produce results due to interference from ferrous metal.

1.5 In order to inform the archaeological mitigation strategy, the following work will be required:

- Topographic survey
- A linear trenched evaluation is required of the development area (informed by the results of the topographic survey).

1.6 The results of this evaluation will enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified. Decisions on the need for and scope of any mitigation measures, should there be any archaeological finds of significance, will be based upon the results of the evaluation and will be the subject of an additional specification.

1.7 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.

1.8 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.

1.9 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute for Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of

Suffolk County Council (9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the WSI as satisfactory. The WSI will provide the basis for measurable standards and will be used to satisfy the requirements of the planning condition.

1.10 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 Coastal District Council that the condition has been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged (assuming planning permission is forthcoming).

1.11 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.

1.12 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.

1.13 Any changes to the specifications that the project archaeologist may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated directly to SCCAS/CT and the client for approval.

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

2.1 Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.

2.2 Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.

2.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.

2.4 Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.

2.5 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

2.6 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2), all stages will follow a process of assessment and justification before proceeding to the next phase of the project. Field evaluation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential. Any further excavation required as mitigation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential, analysis and final report preparation may follow. Each stage will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design; this document covers only the evaluation stage.



2.7 The developer or his archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT (address as above) five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored.

2.8 If the approved evaluation design is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected. Alternatively the presence of an archaeological deposit may be presumed, and untested areas included on this basis when defining the final mitigation strategy.

2.9.1 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

### **3. Specification for non-destructive topographic survey**

3.1 A topographic survey is required across the area marked on the accompanying plan. The contour data should allow a digital terrain model (DTM) to be constructed, which can then be processed and analysed to produce a 3D model of the site.

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

4.1 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover 5% by area of that part of the development (c.2,795.00m<sup>2</sup> in total area). These shall be positioned to sample all parts of the site, following demolition of existing buildings down to ground level. 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 1,553.00m 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.

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

## **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 The results of the surveys should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the County Historic Environment Record (HER).

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

Suffolk County Council Archaeological  
Service Conservation Team 9–10 The  
Churchyard, Shire Hall Bury St Edmunds  
Suffolk IP33 2AR Tel: 01284 741225 Email:  
jess.tipper@suffolk.gov.uk

Date: 21 April 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. OASIS data collection form

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**OASIS ID: suffolkc1-126465**

### Project details

Project name	FEX294 - Felixstowe South Seafront and Martello Tower P
Short description of the project	Trenched evaluation revealed that the Martello Tower was surrounded by a ditch, approximately 7m wide and 1 deep. In other trenches within the evaluation area a large ditch and a partially buried structure formed from tin boxes, both of which are probably part of a WWII coastal defence network, were recorded. Wall bases and footings of a demolished 19th century convalescence home were also revealed
Project dates	Start: 16-04-2012 End: 01-06-2012
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	FEX294 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	C/05/1723/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Site status	Scheduled Monument (SM)
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Monument type	BUNKER Modern
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Modern
Significant Finds	CERAMICS Modern
Significant Finds	BARBED WIRE Modern
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches", "Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)

Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL FELIXSTOWE FEX294 - South Seafront and Martello P
Study area	6.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 2929 3308 51 1 51 56 53 N 001 20 12 E Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team
Project director/manager	Rhodri Gardner
Project supervisor	Mark Sommers
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Physical Archive ID	FEX294
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","other"
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media	"Correspondence","Drawing","Notebook - Excavation"," Research"," General



available Notes", "Report"

## Project

### bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation Report: South Seafront and Martello P, Felixstowe
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Sommers, M.
Other bibliographic details	SCCAS 2012/061
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	SCCAS
Place of issue or publication	Ipswich
Description	printed sheets of A4 paper with a wire binding

Entered by MS (mark.sommers@suffolk.gov.uk)

Entered on 1 June 2012



## Appendix 3. Context List

Context	Feature Number	Identifier	Trench	Description	Cuts	Cut by	Over	Under
0001	0001	Unstratified Finds		unstratified finds from the evaluation area				
0002	0002	Pit Cut	38	Circular pit cut, 1.1m dia, 0.75m deep				
0003	0002	Pit Fill	38	Fill of cut 0002. Consists of homogenous grey sand and shingle with occasional finds of glazed ceramics, glass and ?floor tile fragments				
0004	0004	Ditch Cut	39	Probable linear feature cut running perpendicular to trench. Approximately 4m wide and 1.8m deep.				
0005	0004	Ditch Fill	39	Fill of cut 0004. Consists of pale grey sand with some small stones. A series of rotted wooden posts set upright in base at a spacing of circa 0.8m and standing to a height of circa 0.6m				
0006	0006	Pit Cut	37	Large oval shaped feature cut. Circa 3.5m wide and 2m deep				
0007	0006	Pit Fill	37	Fill of cut 0006 consisting of pale grey sand and shingle with a layer of brown clayey loam around the edge				
0008	0008	Ditch Cut	37	Probable linear feature cut running perpendicular to trench. Approximately 4m wide and 1.8m deep.				
0009	0008	Ditch Fill	37	Fill of cut 0008. Consists of grey sand and shingle				
0010	0010	Structure	33	Sunken rectangular structure measuring approximately 2m by 3m. Cut into the sand and shingle and revetted using sand filled metal boxes measuring 29cm by 29cm by 53cm stood upright, at least two courses evident.				
0011	0010	Fill	33	Fill within structure 0010. Consists of grey sand and shingle with occasional lengths of barbed wire				
0012	0012	Structure	33	Length of rooted timber plank revetting side of a deeper excavation, the opposite side of which was revetted by 0013				
0013	0013	Structure	33	Rust stain marking the site of an iron sheet (corrugated iron?) revetting side of a deeper excavation, the opposite side of which was revetted by 0012				
0014	0014	Pit Cut	11	Shallow rectangular shaped feature with a flat base. Close to the site of a documented structure				
0015	0014	Pit Fill	11	Fill of cut 0014 consisting of pale grey sand and shingle.				
0016	0016	Ditch Cut	8	Ditch around the Martello Tower, as seen in trenches 7, 8 and 10. Approx. 7m wide and 1.2m deep with a very gently sloping side on the outer edge; the inner edge slopes up slightly towards the tower. Photographed in all three trenches but section only recorded in Trench 8				
0017	0016	Ditch Fill	8	Lower fill of ditch 0016 consists of dark sandy loam, darker towards the top of the layer. Interpreted as the initial fill of the ditch consisting of an accruing topsoil.				0018
0018	0016	Ditch Fill	8	Ditch Fill - layer of sand and shingle with brick rubble and late 20th century modern debris. Interpreted as a			0017	0019

Context	Feature Number	Identifier	Trench Description	Cuts	Cut by	Over	Under
			deliberate infilling of the ditch around the tower. In Trench 7 this layer contained a large proportion of brick rubble and porcelain suggesting it originated from a toilet block.				
0019	0016	Ditch Fill	8 Upper fill of tower ditch consisting of a relatively clean sandy loam topsoil.			0018	
0020	0020	Trench Cut	8 Steep sided cut, interpreted as a probable service trench - not bottomed. Excavated across the base of the tower ditch and sealed by the ditch fill.	0022			0017
0021	0020	Trench Fill	8 Fill within cut 0020 consists of pale brown sand and shingle with occasional lenses of dark loam.				0017
0022	0022	Trench Cut	8 Steep sided cut, interpreted as a probable service trench - not bottomed but an iron/steel pipe was encountered. Trench excavated across the base of the tower ditch and sealed by the ditch fill. Cut by 0020.		0020		
0023	0022	Trench Fill	8 Fill within cut 0022 consists of pale brown sand and shingle with occasional lenses of dark loam. Contains an iron/steel pipe which appears to curve around the tower.				
0024	0024	Trench Cut	8 Linear feature - interpreted as a probable service trench (not bottomed) - sealed by the ditch fill				0017
0025	0024	Trench Fill	8 Fill of cut 002. Consists of pale brown and yellow sand and shingle, slight banding				
0026	0026	Pit Cut	8 Small, rectangular shaped feature cut seen during excavation of Trench 8 and visible in section. Vertical edges and flat base. Sealed by ditch fill.				0017
0027	0026	Pit Fill	8 Fill of cut 0026. Consist of dark sand, charcoal rich with an overlying lens of topsoil (or the overlying layer has slumped)				
0028	0028	Slot cut	8 Linear feature consisting of a shallow slot with a rounded profile.				0019
0029	0028	Slot Fill	8 Fill of cut 0028. Consists of dark sandy loam and shingle				
0030	0028	Earthing Strip	8 Length of copper strip running perpendicular across the trench and lying in a shallow cut [0028]. Measured 5mm thick by 25mm wide (approx). Interpreted as part of a grid of copper strips laid to provide an earth for the wireless transmitter that formerly stood on the tower.				
0031	0031	Concrete Block	8 A block of concrete, 0.78m square, with a smooth flat top with an iron loop set into the centre. Block probably cast in-situ in a hole excavated into the subsoil with shuttering around the top edge. Approx 0.75m deep. Interpreted as an anchor point for a possible wireless aerial mast				
0032	0032	Trench Cut	10 Linear feature noted running perpendicular across base trench. Not bottomed but interpreted as a probable service trench. Appeared to be sealed beneath the ditch fill.				
0033	003	Pit Cut	10 Feature cut noted in the base of the tower ditch. Approx 1m wide and 0.6m deep. Visible across the width of the trench and therefore not clear if this was an elongated pit or a linear feature.				

Context	Feature Number	Identifier	Trench	Description	Cuts	Cut by	Over	Under
0034	0034	Pit Fill	10	Fill of cut 0032. Primarily consisted of ash, charcoal and clinker with occasional rib bones (cow) and late 19th bottles and jars				
0035	0035	Earthing Strip	10	Length of copper strip running at an angle across the trench. Measured 5mm thick by 25mm wide (approx). Set in a slot cut into the lower section of the buried topsoil layer filling the ditch (same as layer 0017) becoming quite deeply buried in relation to the present ground surface. Actually formed from two sections of copper strip jointed together with a copper rod (actually a steel rod with a copper coating) which had been driven vertically into the ground. The strip was broken during the excavation but was returned to the trench in the approximate original location				
0036	0036	Manhole	7	Concrete surround of a manhole (not excavated) located in trench 7 immediately adjacent the tower wall at a depth of 0.9m below present ground level. Sealed beneath a layer of brick rubble probably associated with a demolished toilet block (toilet fragments evident) - comparable with fill 0018 seen in trench 8				
0037	0037	Pit Cut	7	Pit noted in base of ditch, partially within the basal fill the ditch (comparable to layer 0017 in Trench 8) Approximately 1, wide of 0.5m deep. Only seen in section.				
0038	0037	Pit Fill	7	Fill of cut 0037 consisting of sand and shingle with a large proportion of ash, charcoal/clinker and occasional late 19th century bottle and jars etc.				
0039	0039	Concrete Block	7	A block of concrete, 0.78m square, with a smooth flat top with an iron loop set into the centre. Block probably cast in-situ in a hole excavated into the subsoil with shuttering around the top edge. Approx 0.75m deep. Interpreted as an anchor point for a possible wireless aerial mast. The block was removed during excavation of the trench but was replaced within 0.5m of the original location during backfilling.				
0040	0040	Ditch Cut	26	Probable linear feature cut running near perpendicular to trench. Approximately 4m wide and 1.6m deep.				
0041	0040	Ditch Fill	26	Fill of cut 0040. consists of pale grey sand and shingle with occasional darker lenses				

# Archaeological services Field Projects Team

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**Contact:**

**Rhodri Gardner**

**Tel: 01473 581743 Fax: 01473 288221**

**rhodri.gardner@suffolk.gov.uk**

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