

# Land North of Cheney's House, The Causeway, Hitcham, HTC 081

## **Archaeological Evaluation Report**

SCCAS Report No. 2012/106

**Client: Rivett Building Services Limited**

Author: Rob Brooks

August/2012

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

SCCAS Report No. 2012/106

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Illustrator: Gemma Adams

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Report Date: August/2012



## HER Information

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**Site Code:** HTC 081

**Site Name:** Land North of Cheney's House, The Causeway

**Report Number** 2012/106

**Planning Application No:** B/10/01495

**Date of Fieldwork:** 04/07/2012

**Grid Reference:** TL 9873 5203

**Oasis Reference:** suffolkc1-129939

**Curatorial Officer:** Sarah Poppy

**Project Officer:** Rob Brooks

**Client/Funding Body:** Rivett Building Services Limited

**Client Reference:** N/A

Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:

<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>

### Disclaimer

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

Prepared By: Rob Brooks

Date: 09/08/2012

Approved By: John Craven

Position: Project Officer

Date: 09/08/2012

Signed:



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



## **Summary**

Four evaluation trenches were excavated on land to the north of Cheney's House, west of The Causeway, Hitcham, in Suffolk. These trenches were excavated after the housing and car ports had already been constructed on the site, and were opened up in order to assess the archaeological potential of the site and the local area, as well as to explore the viability of excavating part of the remainder of the site. The trenches to the rear of the properties revealed no archaeological deposits and little evidence of disturbance. However the trenches nearer to the road uncovered two undated ditches and a pit, as well as two post-medieval pits/layers and a post-medieval pond.

# Drawing Conventions

## Plans

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

## Sections

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

## **1. Introduction**

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An archaeological evaluation was carried out as a condition on planning application B/10/01495 on land north of Cheney's House, The Causeway, Hitcham, in Suffolk. The work was carried out to a Brief and Specification issued by Sarah Poppy, (of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team – Appendix 1). Two houses and car ports had already been built on the site and the services laid to these properties prior to the evaluation taking place. However the evaluation was carried out in the remaining available areas of the site in order to examine the site for potential heritage assets and to inform further archaeological work in the area. The developer, Rivett Building Services Limited, funded the work that was carried out 4th July, 2012.

The site is located immediately west of The Causeway/B1115 and the Causeway Estate, and north-east of the village centre at grid reference TL 9873 5203 (Fig. 1).

## **2. Geology and topography**

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The geology of the area consists of Lowestoft Formation chalky till, together with outwash sands and gravels, silts and clays, overlying bedrock formations of Red Crag sand (BGS, 2012). On site, the geology generally presented itself as pale greyish-yellow clay with chalk flecks at the front of the houses, with pale yellow pure clay to the rear.

The site was largely level, with ground level heights varying between 82.65m and 83.18m above the Ordnance Datum. The 80m contour runs both to the east and west of the site, with the overall ground levels sloping away on both sides. There was a slight slope from the west down to the east.

### 3. Archaeology and historical background

The site lies close to the core of the village, which has Saxon origins and was recorded in the Domesday Book as Hecham (Turner, 2012). The origin of the name of the road adjoining the site, The Causeway, appears to refer to the topographic ridge that it follows and it is named as 'Hitcham Causeway' on the 1837 Ordnance Survey map (Martin, 2012). Immediately north of the site a 17th-18th century house is present, called Layer Marney. It is listed at Grade II (list entry number 1037255) and is a 'timber-framed and plastered building with a thatched roof and a central ridge chimney stack with 2 octagonal shafts' (English Heritage, 2012).

The 1904 Ordnance Survey map shows that there was no building on the site at the time, but that what appears to be an unusual structure or large pond ran along the frontage (Fig. 2). David Turner mentions that the village ponds were used as a water source during the 19th century and were the source of disease that caused several child deaths in the 1890s (2012). The pond was not present on the 1885 First Edition OS map wherein the site was depicted with a few trees within the current development area.

There are also several records within the Historic Environment Record (HER) within a 1,000m of the site and these are detailed in Table 1, below, and on Figure 1.

HER code	Description
HTC 002	Settlement site on a hill top close to a Roman road – Roman
HTC 007	Strap end – Saxon Site of Chapel of St Margaret – medieval
HTC 008	Top stone of a puddingstone quern – Roman
HTC 009	Moat – medieval
HTC 016	Church of All Saints – medieval
HTC 017	Length of Roman road, Peddars Way
HTC 022	Brick foundations of a mill – post-medieval
HTC 026	Site of The Hobbets; remains of small moated enclosures – medieval
HTC 029	Hitcham Old Windmill – medieval
HTC 033	Oak Cottage; Warrens – medieval
HTC 034	Cross Way Farm, Jodwyns alia Parminters - medieval
HTC 046	Parker's Wood, an ancient woodland
HTC 051	Early Saxon wrist clasp and Middle Saxon strap end Solid bronze chisel – undated Scatter of post-medieval metalwork
HTC 058	Circular solid cropmark – undated
HTC 071	15th century farmhouse with a 17th century barn and 19th century stables and carthouse
HTC 076	15th century farmhouse with 17th century alterations and a 19th century barn
HTC 078	Two 16th century barns in the grounds of a 16/17th century farmhouse
HTC 079	16th century Church Cottage

Table 1. HER listings surrounding the site and as shown on Figure 1

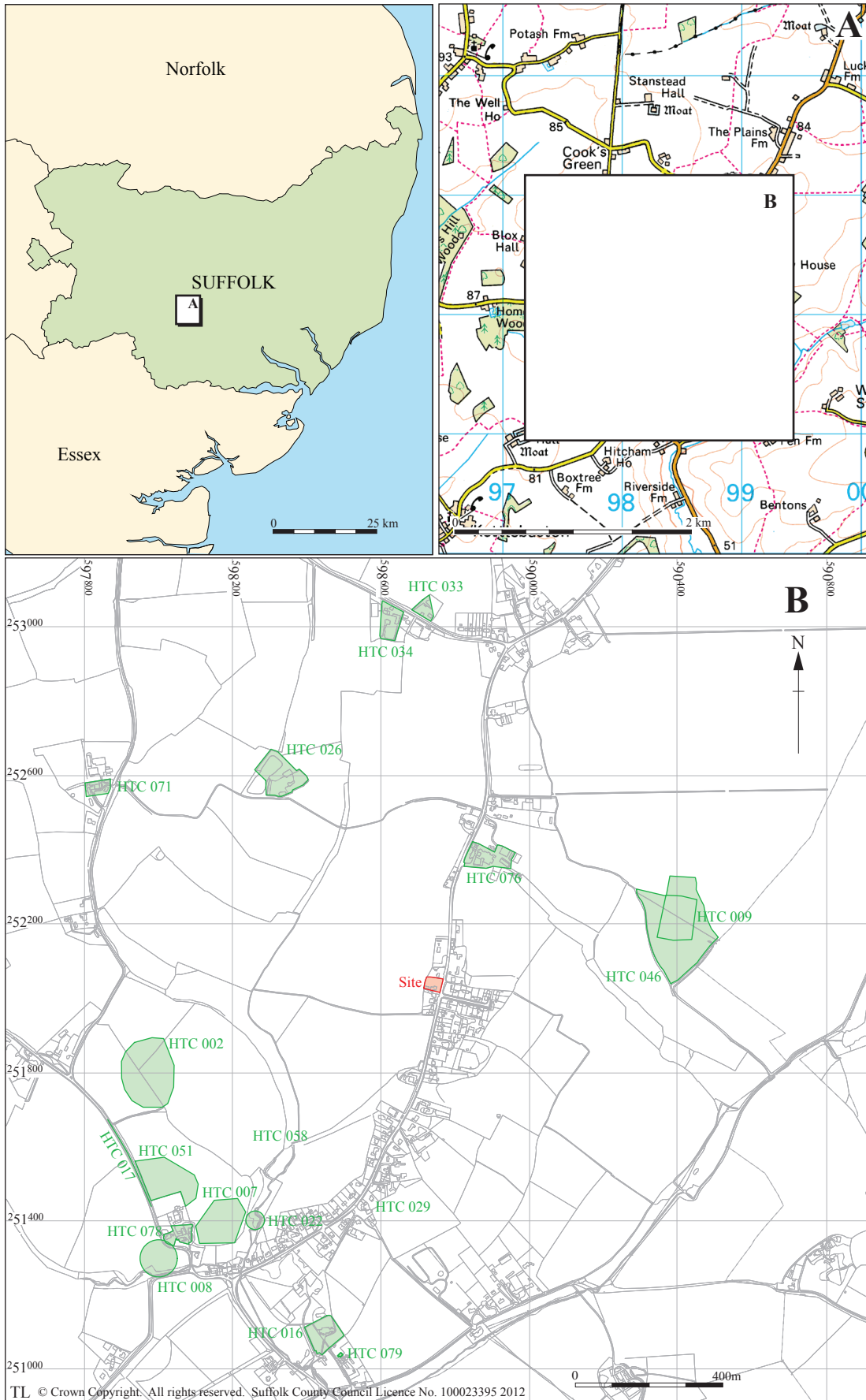


Figure 1. Location of site (red) and Historic Environment Record entries as mentioned in the text (green)

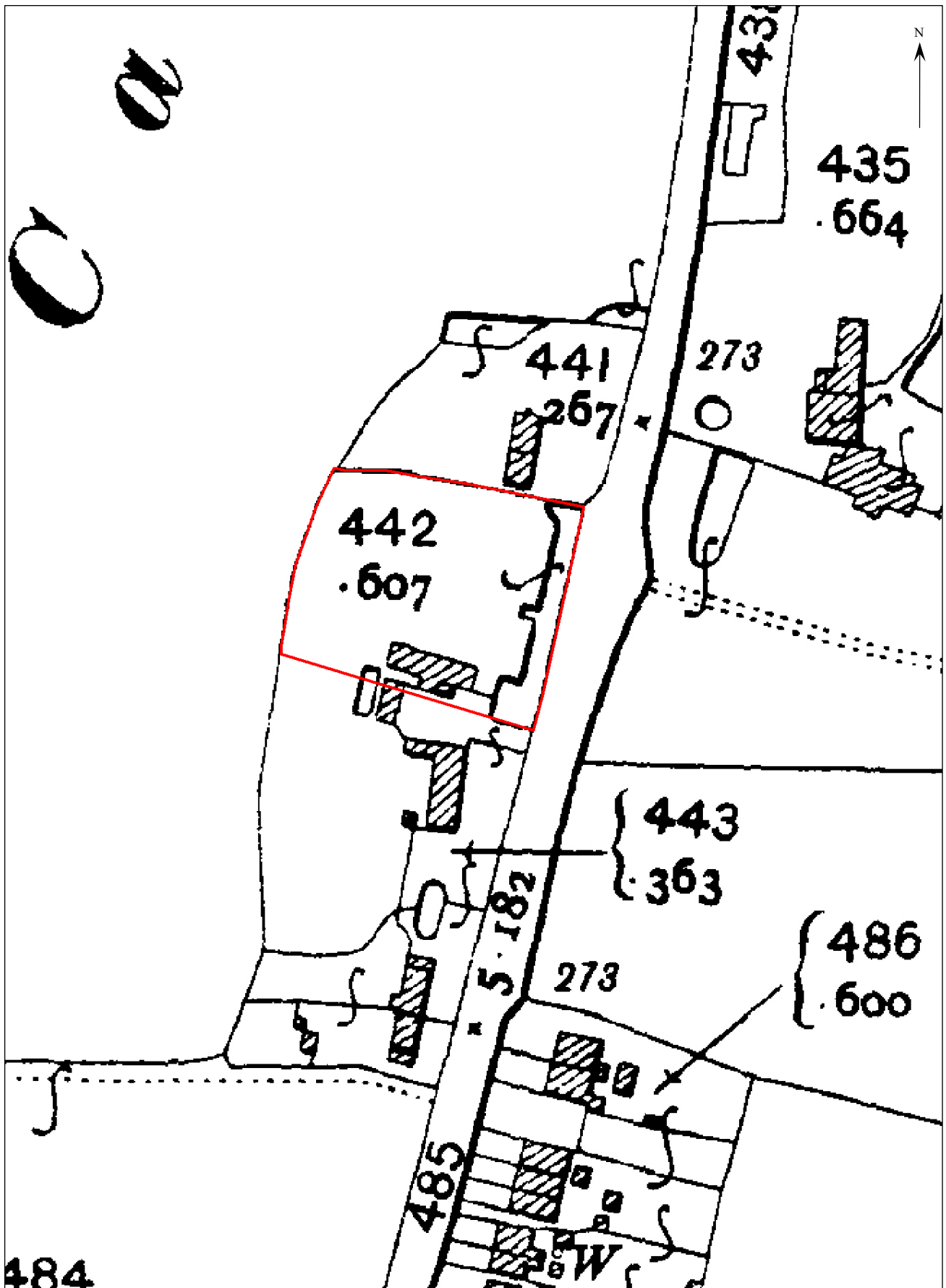


Figure 2. 1904 Ordnance Survey map, showing approximate site outline (red)

## 4. Methodology

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The trenches were excavated using a digger equipped with a toothless bucket and the excavation was directed and constantly monitored by an experienced archaeologist, with the topsoil being removed, followed by a garden soil or ploughsoil layer in order to expose the archaeological levels. All upcast spoil was constantly monitored for finds. The total area of the development was 1594sqm and within this four trenches were excavated, covering a total area of 65.16sqm, or 4.1% of the development area. It was not possible to excavate the full 5% of trenching as required by the Brief and Specification because of the position of services, soak-aways and structures across the site. The area was also partially covered with standing water, further limiting suitable sites for trenching. Trench 1 was 11m long, Trench 2 was 6m long, Trench 3 was 13.1m long, and Trench 4 was 6.1m long. The trenches were positioned to sample both the front and rear of the site (Fig. 3).

When the trench excavations were finished soil profiles were cleaned and then recorded on SCCAS *pro forma* record sheets, including descriptions and measurements. Features were then cleaned and excavated by hand, with sections being excavated through the undated ditches and pit. These were excavated as fully as possible in order to search for dating evidence, although in Trench 1 a service cable had to be avoided. The post-medieval features were partially sampled with slots to obtain dating evidence. Environmental bulk samples were not taken. Features were then recorded using a single continuous numbering system (Appendix 2), on *pro forma* context sheets. Sections and plans were drawn of individual features at varying scales between 1:20-1:50. Colour digital photographs (300 by 300 dpi resolution) were taken of the features, as well as of the trenches (Appendix 3). A trench location plan of the site was made using a Real Time Kinematics Leica 1200 Smart Rover GPS, working within accuracy tolerances of 0.05m. This was also used to obtain levelling information. This survey was processed using LisCAD S.E.E. and MapInfo.

Site data has been input onto the MS Access database and recorded using the County Historic Environment Record code HTC 081. An OASIS form has been completed for the project (reference no. suffolkc1-129939 – Appendix 4) and a digital copy of the report submitted for inclusion on the Archaeology Data Service database (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>). The site archive is kept in the main store of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service at Bury St Edmunds under HER code HTC 081.

## **5. Results**

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### **5.1 Introduction**

Of the four areas excavated, Trenches 1 and 2 revealed archaeological deposits, whilst Trenches 3 and 4 were empty. The features included undated ditches and a pit, as well as post-medieval pits or layers, and a pond (Fig. 3 and Appendix 3). These survived beneath 0.25-0.5m of topsoil, layer 0013 and various other layers.

### **5.2 Trench results**

#### **Trench 1**

In this trench 0.25m of topsoil overlaid 0.25-36m of an orangish-greyish-brown silty-clay layer 0013, which did not appear to be present above context 0001. However it is possible that deposit 0001 was a continuation of this layer, surviving within hollow/cut 0002. Further poorly-defined traces of soil layer 0013 were sporadically present along the east edge of the trench in plan.

#### **Layer 0001/Pit 0002**

In the north-east corner of the trench was a deposit of mid greyish-brown silty-clay, 0001, recorded within cut 0002. This measured >3.65m x >0.85m x 0.34m deep and appeared to be linear, although it extended beyond the trench. It was interpreted as either a pit, or a poorly defined slope to the site. If it represented the site topography, deposit 0001 may have been layer 0013, as seen elsewhere in the trench. Post-medieval finds were recovered from context 0001, consisting of 18th-20th century pottery, as well as Oyster shell, animal bone and a George III penny from 1807.

#### **Ditch 0004 and pit 0006**

Running east-west across the trench was ditch 0004, which cut pit 0006. This was truncated by a service trench. The cut had approximately 45°, slightly concave sides and a broad, concave base and measured 1.14m across x 0.22m deep. The fill was mid orangish-brown silty-clay, 0003, which produced no finds. Pit 0006 also contained no finds and appeared to be round in plan although it was obscured by the trench edge and truncated by ditch 0004. It had steep, concave sides and a narrow, concave base and was filled with pale-mid mottled orange and greenish-grey silty-clay fill 0005.



### **Ditch 0008**

At the southern end of Trench 1 was south-west to north-east aligned ditch cut 0008. It was 100% excavated and measured >3.2m long x 0.66m wide x 0.28m deep. The cut had nearly straight sides, sloping at 75° and a flattish base. Fill 0007 was mid orangish-greyish-brown silty-clay, from which no finds were recovered.

### **Trench 2**

In this trench 0.1m of topsoil overlaid c.0.14m of make-up material, consisting of brick rubble, mortar fragments, sand and dark grey silty-clay. This in turn covered 0.16m of a buried topsoil layer, which was on top of a further 0.1m of mottled grey and orange sandy-clay subsoil. Within this trench one pond and another feature similar to layer/cut 0001/0002 were recorded, both of which were post-medieval.

### **Pond 0009**

A sub-rectangular feature was recorded in the southern end of the trench as pond 0009. It measured >2.25m x >0.9m and contained slightly disturbed mottled dark grey clayey-silt and yellow chalky-clay fill 0010, which contained brick fragments. This was interpreted as a recent pond feature, hence the nature of the fill. One post-medieval brick sample was kept. The feature was not excavated.

### **Layer/Pit 0012/0011**

In the northern half of the trench, what appeared to be a linear feature was recorded as cut 0011. This was >3.05m x >0.85m x 0.15m deep, with a rather poorly defined 45° western edge. It was only partially excavated because the trench was flooding with groundwater and because of the position of a nearby electrical cable. However the feature produced post-medieval blue and white china pottery, slate and CBM fragments, from dark-grey silty-clay fill 0012. On site this was interpreted as a pit.

### **Trenches 3 and 4**

Trenches 3 and 4 revealed no archaeological deposits. In this area to the rear of the houses there was a fairly consistent 0.15-0.25m thick topsoil layer, which overlaid a grey-brown silty-sandy-clay subsoil layer that was 0.2-0.25m deep.

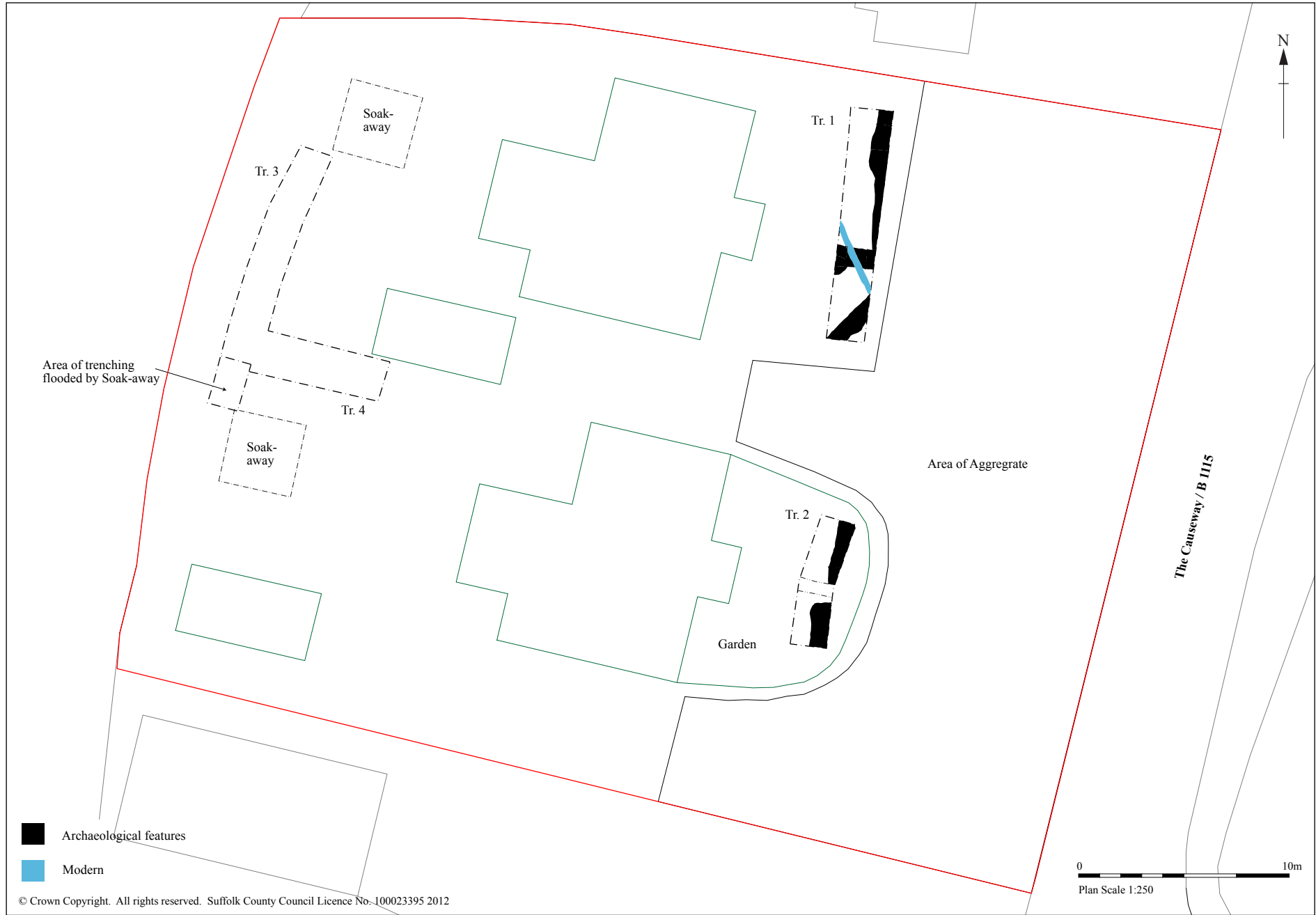


Figure 3. Site Plan with house development plots (green)

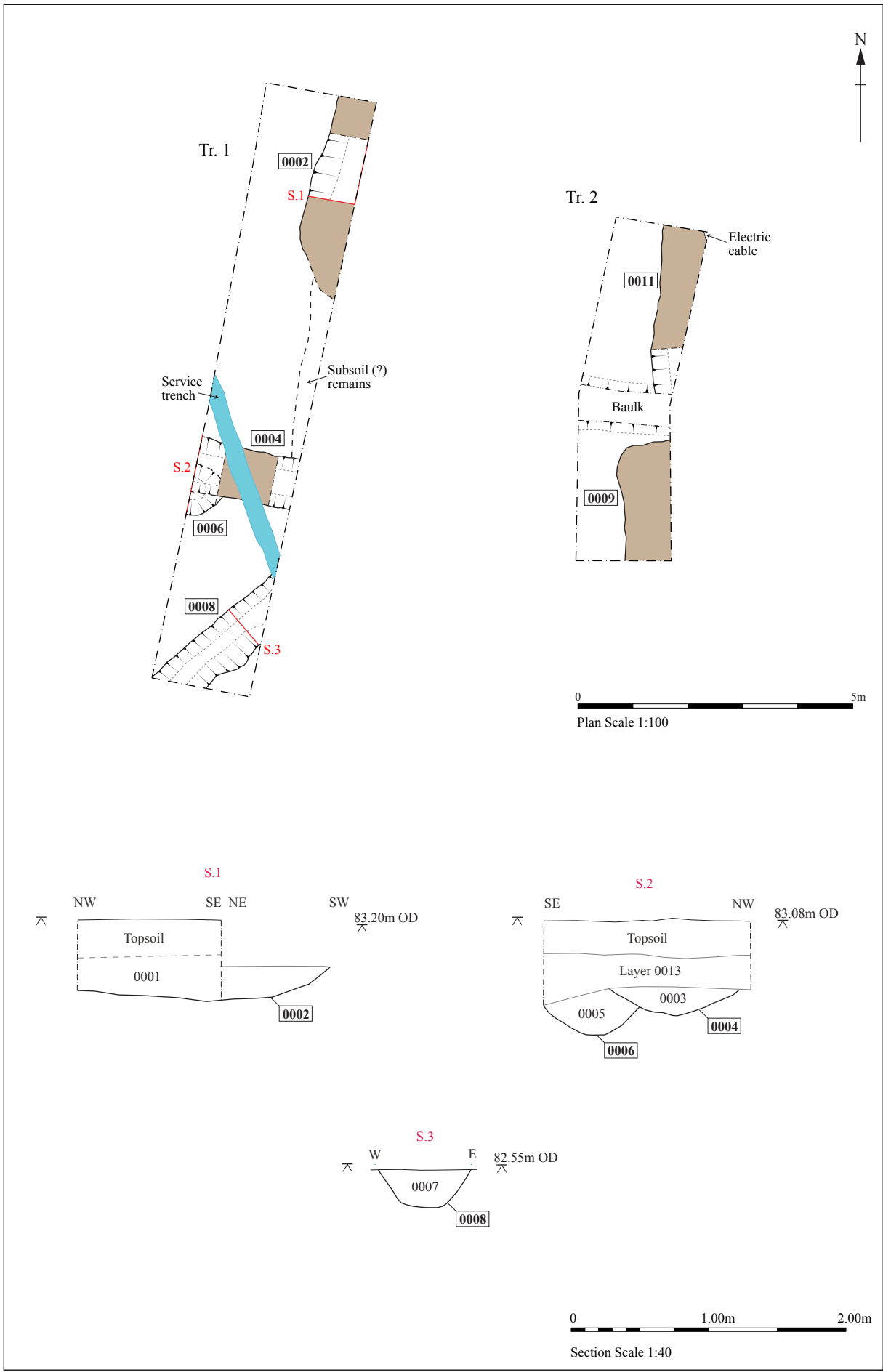


Figure 4. Trench plans and sections

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

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Andy Fawcett

### **6.1 Introduction**

Two contexts contained finds, pit fill 0001 and pond fill 0010.

### **6.2 Pit fill 0001**

Present within this context are four abraded body sherds of pottery. Three are Transfer printed wares (TPE) dated from the 18th to 20th century (3g) and the other is an English stoneware fragment (7g) dated from the 18th to 19th century.

Further finds include a worn George III penny dated 1807 (9g), an abraded oyster shell fragment (6g) and three pieces of unidentifiable large mammal bone (22g).

### **6.3 Pond fill 0010**

This context contains a single abraded post-medieval brick fragment (183g). The fragment is oxidised and in a medium sandy fabric (ms). Two partial surface areas exhibit mortar traces.

### **6.4 Conclusion**

This is a small and very fragmentary group of finds that are dated to the post-medieval period. The finds in pit fill 0001 appear to demonstrate some consistency in terms of dating; the presence of a George III coin suggests an early 19th century date for the fill.

## **7. Discussion**

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The evaluation revealed that archaeological deposits were present on the site and were well preserved below 0.25-0.5m of topsoil and other layers. Whilst some of the deposits represent the use of the area during the post-medieval period for pits, ponds and possibly site levelling, there were also other features from a different phase. These represent as yet undated occupation on the site in the form of ditches and a pit. Their differing alignments and relationships tend to indicate different phases or sub-phases. The fills from these features are also very distinct to the post-medieval deposits. There is no evidence for the undated features on either the 1885 or 1904 Ordnance Survey maps and as such it is thought they probably pre-date these documents. The alignment of the undated ditches would appear to indicate that they would have continued underneath the house plots, and have therefore presumably been destroyed by the footings from these buildings.

It is of interesting to note that whilst both Trenches 1 and 2 were aligned closely with the Layer Marney property to the north of the development area, no structural remains were found within these trenches. This possibly suggests that any buildings that may have been present on the site previously were not aligned with Layer Marney, or that remains of any floor surfaces or shallow footings may have already been truncated.

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

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It is clear that post-medieval and undated archaeological features survived on the site and that the construction of the existing houses and the installation of their associated services will almost certainly have destroyed further deposits of interest. If further groundworks are to be undertaken in the area it is recommended that a suitable strategy is put in place to mitigate against further damage to the archaeological record.

## 9. Archive deposition

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Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

Digital archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Archive\Hitcham\HTC 081 Land North of Cheneys House

Digital photographic archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Catalogues\Photos\HPA-HPZ\HPO 94-99 & HPP 1-3

Finds and environmental archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds. Store Location: H/80/4

## 10. Acknowledgements

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The fieldwork was carried out by Rob Brooks and John Sims and directed by Rob Brooks. Project management was undertaken by John Craven.

Post-excavation management was provided by Richenda Goffin. The specialist finds advice was supplied by Andy Fawcett.

The report illustrations were created by Gemma Adams and the report was edited by John Craven and Richenda Goffin.

## 11. Bibliography

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BGS, 2012, Information obtained from <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/products/digitalMaps> and reproduced with the permission of the British Geological Survey ©NERC. All rights Reserved

English Heritage, 2012, List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. District of Listing: Babergh, 27th Sep 1977. List Entry Number: 1037255, available at: <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/>

Martin, E., 2012, personal communication from Edward Martin

Turner, D., site last visited 10/07/2012, A short history of Hitcham, obtained from <http://www.hitchamsuffolk.org.uk/history.asp?Category=History>

## Appendix 1. Brief and specification

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### The Archaeological Service

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Economy, Skills and Environment  
9–10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall  
Bury St Edmunds  
Suffolk  
IP33 1RX

## Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation

AT

### SITE OFF THE CAUSEWAY, HITCHAM, STOWMARKET SUFFOLK

<b>PLANNING AUTHORITY:</b>	Babergh District Council
<b>PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:</b>	B/10/01495
<b>HER NO. FOR THIS PROJECT:</b>	To be arranged
<b>GRID REFERENCE:</b>	TL 987 520
<b>DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL:</b>	2 dwellings and 2 detached garages (development already commenced)
<b>AREA:</b>	0.15 ha
<b>CURRENT LAND USE:</b>	Part former outbuildings, part garden
<b>THIS BRIEF ISSUED BY:</b>	Sarah Poppy Archaeological Officer Conservation Team Tel. : 01284 741226 E-mail: sarah.poppy@suffolk.gov.uk
<b>Date:</b>	28 June 2012

### Summary

- 1.1 Planning permission has been granted with the following condition (Condition 8) relating to archaeological investigation:  
  
'No development shall take place until a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.'
- 1.2 The archaeological contractor must submit a copy of their Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) or Method Statement, based upon this brief of minimum requirements (and in conjunction with our standard Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation 2011 Ver 1.3), to the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS/CT) for scrutiny; SCCAS/CT is the advisory body to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) on archaeological issues.

- 1.3 The WSI should be approved before costs are agreed with the commissioning client, in line with Institute for Archaeologists' guidance. Failure to do so could result in additional and unanticipated costs.
- 1.4 Following acceptance, SCCAS/CT will advise the LPA that an appropriate scheme of work is in place. The WSI, however, is not 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 (including the need for any further work following this evaluation), will enable SCCAS/CT to advise the LPA that the condition has been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged.
- 1.5 The 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. If the approved WSI is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected.

### **Archaeological Background**

- 2.1 The proposed development is located in an area of archaeological potential recorded on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record, within the historic settlement core of Hitcham.

### **Planning Background**

- 3.1 There is high potential for archaeological deposits to be disturbed by this development. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 3.2 The Planning Authority was 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 any heritage assets (that might be present at this location) before they are damaged or destroyed.

### **Fieldwork Requirements for Archaeological Investigation**

- 4.1 A linear trenched evaluation is required of the development area to enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified.
- 4.2 Trial Trenching is required to:
  - Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
  - Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
  - Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
  - Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 4.3 Further evaluation could be required if unusual deposits or other archaeological finds of significance are recovered; if so, this would be the subject of an additional brief.



- 4.4 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover 5% by area, which is c.75.00m<sup>2</sup>. These shall be positioned to sample all parts of the site. Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method, in a systematic grid array. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.80m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated; this will result in c.42.00m of trenching at 1.80m in width.
- 4.5 A scale plan showing the proposed location of the trial trenches should be included in the WSI and the detailed trench design must be approved by SCCAS/CT before fieldwork begins.

### **Arrangements for Archaeological Investigation**

- 5.1 The composition of the archaeological contractor's staff must be detailed and agreed by SCCAS/CT, including any subcontractors/specialists. Ceramic specialists, in particular, must have relevant experience from this region, including knowledge of local ceramic sequences.
- 5.2 All arrangements for the evaluation of the site, the timing of the work and access to the site, are to be defined and negotiated by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.
- 5.3 The project manager must also carry out a risk assessment and ensure that all potential risks are minimised, before commencing the fieldwork. The responsibility for identifying any constraints on fieldwork (e.g. designated status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites and other ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor.

### **Reporting and Archival Requirements**

- 6.1 The project manager must consult the Suffolk HER Officer to obtain an event number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on all documentation relating to the work.
- 6.2 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared and must be adequate to perform the function of a final archive for deposition in the Archaeological Service's Store or in a suitable museum in Suffolk.
- 6.3 It is expected that the landowner will deposit the full site archive, and transfer title to, the Archaeological Service or the designated Suffolk museum, and this should be agreed before the fieldwork commences. The intended depository should be stated in the WSI, for approval.
- 6.4 The project manager should consult the intended archive depository before the archive is prepared regarding the specific requirements for the archive deposition and curation (including the digital archive), and regarding any specific cost implications of deposition.
- 6.5 A report on the fieldwork and archive must be provided. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance. The results should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the Suffolk HER.

- 6.6 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given, although the final decision lies with SCCAS/CT. No further site work should be embarked upon until the evaluation results are assessed and the need for further work is established.
- 6.7 Following approval of the report by SCCAS/CT, a single copy of the report should be presented to the Suffolk HER as well as a digital copy of the approved report.
- 6.8 All parts of the OASIS online form <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be completed and a copy must be included in the final report and also with the site archive. A digital copy of the report should be uploaded to the OASIS website.
- 6.9 Where positive results are drawn from a project, a summary report must be prepared for the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*.
- 6.10 This brief remains valid for 12 months. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the brief may need to be revised and re-issued to take account of new discoveries, changes in policy and techniques.

### **Standards and Guidance**

Further detailed requirements are to be found in our Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation 2011 Ver 1.3.

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.

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.

### **Notes**

The Institute for Archaeologists maintains a list of registered archaeological contractors ([www.archaeologists.net](http://www.archaeologists.net) or 0118 378 6446). There are a number of archaeological contractors that regularly undertake work in the County and SCCAS will provide advice on request. SCCAS/CT does not give advice on the costs of archaeological projects.

## Appendix 2. Context list

Context No	Feature No	Grid Sq.	Feature Type	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Small Finds	Cuts	Cut by	Over	Under	Finds	Sample	Group No	Phase	Spotdate
0001	0002		Pit Fill	Mid greyish-brown silty-clay fill. Compacted. Moderate chalk flecks and small nodules. Moderate-frequent small-medium angular-rounded flints. Clear horizon clarity with natural.  Fill of post-medieval pit. Contained a penny (20th century?) and blue and white pottery. Possibly the same as layer 0013.			0.34				0002		Yes	No			
0002	0002		Pit Cut	Curvilinear in plan- it runs along the north-east edge of Trench 1, with its southern limit running out of the trench on its eastern edge, and its northern limit running out of the northern end of the trench. Shallow break of slope at surface, with slightly concave, approximately 45° sides and a slightly concave base.  Cut of pond possibly, but it may be a buried soil on the natural slope of the site, or a make-up layer.	>3.65	>0.85	0.34					0001	No	No			
0003	0004		Ditch Fill	Mid orangish-brown silty-clay. Compacted material. Occasional chalk flecks. Occasional-moderate charcoal flecks. Clear horizon clarity with natural and 0005.  Fill of undated ditch 0004. Limited area of fill could be excavated due to position of service trench running across the feature.			0.22				0004		No	No			
0004	0004		Ditch Cut	Linear cut in plan, aligned approximately E-W. Shallow break of slope at surface, approximately 45°, slightly concave sides and a broad, concave base. Cuts pit 0006.  Cut of undated ditch. Limited area of cut could be excavated due to position of service trench running across the feature.	>1.6	1.14	0.22				0005	0003	No	No			
0005	0006		Pit Fill	Pale-mid mottled orange and greenish-grey silty-clay. Compacted material. Occasional charcoal flecks. Clear horizon clarity with natural.  Fill of undated pit.			0.32				0006	0004	No	No			
0006	0006		Pit Cut	Only one rounded edge of the pit was visible, as it exited the trench to the west and was truncated by ditch 0004 to the north. It had a sharp break of slope at the surface, with steep, concave sides and a narrow, concave base. Cut by ditch 0004.  Cut of undated pit 0006.	>0.68	>0.4	0.32					0005	No	No			
0007	0008		Ditch Fill	Mid orangish-greyish-brown silty-clay. Compacted material. Occasional chalk flecks and rare charcoal flecks. Clear horizon clarity with natural.  Fill of undated ditch. 100% of fill in trench was excavated.			0.28				0008		No	No			
0008	0008		Ditch Cut	Linear shape in plan, aligned roughly N-S. In profile it had a steep break of slope at the surface, with nearly straight sides at approximately 75°. Flattish base. Becomes broader and shallower towards the south, but then becomes more regular again beyond the recorded section.  Cut of undated ditch.	>3.2	0.66	0.28					0007	No	No			

Context No	Feature No	Grid Sq.	Feature Type	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Small Finds	Cuts	Cut by	Over	Under	Finds	Sample	Group No	Phase	Spotdate
0009	0009		Pond Cut	Sub-rectangular shaped feature in Trench 2, aligned roughly N-S. Not excavated due to the modern nature of the feature. Filled with 0010. Recently backfilled pond.	>2.25	>0.9						0010	No	No			
0010	0009		Pond Fill	Dark grey clayey-silt and yellow chalk-clay mix. Hard compaction. Contained flint nodules and occasional large brick fragments- one kept. The colour and nature of the fill indicate that this is was the remains of a pond fill. The brick fragments indicate that it is quite recent.							0009		Yes	No			
0011	0011		Pit Cut	Linear(?) feature aligned N-S, but only a very small area visible in trench. Approximately 45° western side, with a concave base. Excavation stopped after several clearly post-medieval finds were recovered, but also because the trench was flooding and there was an electrical service cable in the north-east corner of the trench. Partially excavated, but produced slate, post-medieval CBM, and blue and white china, so not fully recorded. Probably a post-medieval rubbish pit or a make-up layer, similar to feature 0002.	>3.05	>0.85	0.15					0012	No	No			
0012	0011		Pit Fill	Dark-grey silty-clay. Firm compaction. Common chalk flecks and small stones. Produced slate, CBM and blue and white china, which was not retained. Fill of a post-medieval pit, or possibly a make-up layer, levelling the site.			0.15				0011		No	No			
0013			Soil Layer	Orangish-greyish-brown silty-clay. Firmly compacted and a clear-diffuse horizon clarity. Occasional small sub-angular stones and small chalk flecks. A garden soil layer or site-levelling layer that is present at the front of some of the site. Post-medieval layer that may be the same as 0001 in cut 0002.			0.2-3						No	No			



### Appendix 3. Trench photographs

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Left – Plate 1. Trench 1, 1m scale, facing north



Right – Plate 2. Trench 2, 1m scale, facing north





Left – Plate 3. Trench 3, 1m scale, facing south-south-west



Right – Plate 4. Trench 4, 1m scale, facing east-south-east

## Appendix 4. OASIS form

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

**OASIS ID: suffolkc1-129939**

### Project details

Project name	HTC 081 Land North of Cheney's House, The Causeway, Evaluation
Short description of the project	Four evaluation trenches were excavated on land to the north of Cheney's House, west of The Causeway, Hitcham, in Suffolk. These trenches were excavated after the housing and car ports had already been constructed on the site, and were opened up in order to assess the archaeological potential of the site and the local area, as well as to explore the potential of excavating part of the remainder of the site. The trenches to the rear of the properties revealed no archaeological deposits and little evidence of disturbance. However the trenches nearer to the road uncovered two undated ditches and a pit, as well as two post-medieval pits/layers and a post-medieval pond.
Project dates	Start: 04-07-2012 End: 04-07-2012
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	B/10/01495 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	HTC 081 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	HTC 081 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	2012/106 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Current Land use	Other 3 - Built over
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Monument type	POND Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	LAYER Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	COIN Post Medieval

Significant Finds	ANIMAL REMAINS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, 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 BABERGH HITCHAM HTC 081 Land North of Cheney's House Evaluation, The Causeway, Hitcham
Postcode	IP7 7NG
Study area	1594.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 9873 5203 52 0 52 07 49 N 000 54 13 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 82.00m Max: 83.00m

### 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	Sarah Poppy
Project director/manager	John Craven
Project supervisor	Rob Brooks
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Rivett Building Services Limited

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Physical Archive ID	H/80/4
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Digital Archive ID	HTC 081
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Metal", "Survey", "other"



Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Paper Archive ID	HTC 081
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Correspondence","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land North of Cheney's House, The Causeway, Hitcham, HTC 081, Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Brooks, R.
Other bibliographic details	SCCAS Report No. 2012/106
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	SCCAS
Place of issue or publication	Bury St Edmunds
Description	A4, comb bound, white cover, in colour, with four appendices (also available as a pdf)
Entered by	Rob Brooks (rob.brooks@suffolk.gov.uk)
Entered on	7 August 2012

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