

**Glebe House, Church Lane, Beyton
BEY 015**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

SCCAS Report No. 2012/120

Client: Fallowfield Homes Ltd

Author: J. Sims

August 2012

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Glebe House, Church Lane, Beyton BEY 015

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Author: J. Sims

Contributions By: Andy Fawcett and Joanna Caruth

Illustrator: Beata Wiczorek-Olesky

Editor: Richenda Goffin

Report Date: August 2012

HER Information

Site Code: BEY 015
Site Name: Glebe House
Report Number 2012/120
Planning Application No: 1533/12
Date of Fieldwork: 09/08/2012
Grid Reference: TL 934 625
Oasis Reference: suffolkc1-132192
Curatorial Officer: Dr Jess Tipper
Project Officer: John Craven
Client/Funding Body: Fallowfield Homes Ltd
Client Reference: QB12/094

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: John Sims

Date: 10/08/12

Approved By:

Position:

Date:

Signed:

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Summary

Two evaluation trenches were excavated through two proposed building plots at Glebe House, Church Road, Beyton. These trenches were excavated prior to the demolition of an existing house and before the ground works of the proposed buildings. Within each trench there was a single possible post-medieval boundary ditch running at right angles to the medieval street frontage.

1. Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was carried out at Glebe House, Beyton, before the demolition of an existing 20th century house and the construction of two new houses. The work took place on the 9th of August 2012 and was required as a condition on planning application 1533/12. The work was carried out by staff of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Field Team and followed a Brief and Specification supplied by the archaeological adviser to the local planning authority, Dr Jess Tipper of SCCAS/CT (Appendix 1).

2. Geology and topography

The site lies at TL 934 625 along a medieval street frontage and approximately 200m to the south-east of the church. The land was flat and level, and most recently used as the site of a late 20th century house and gardens. The natural geology was orange clay and flint gravels found at a height of 65.54m OD to the north, in Trench 2, and sloping down to the south to a height of 64.64m OD, in Trench 1.

3. Archaeology and historical background

The condition was placed as the property is located on a street frontage close to the centre of medieval Beyton and lies within an area of archaeological interest as defined in the County Historic Environment Record, close to the medieval church (HER No. BEY 003), a probable post-medieval boundary ditch (BEY 010), a possible moated house and outbuildings (BEY 011) and a 17th century farm house (BEY 001). This indicated a high potential for both medieval and earlier occupation deposits to exist upon this site.

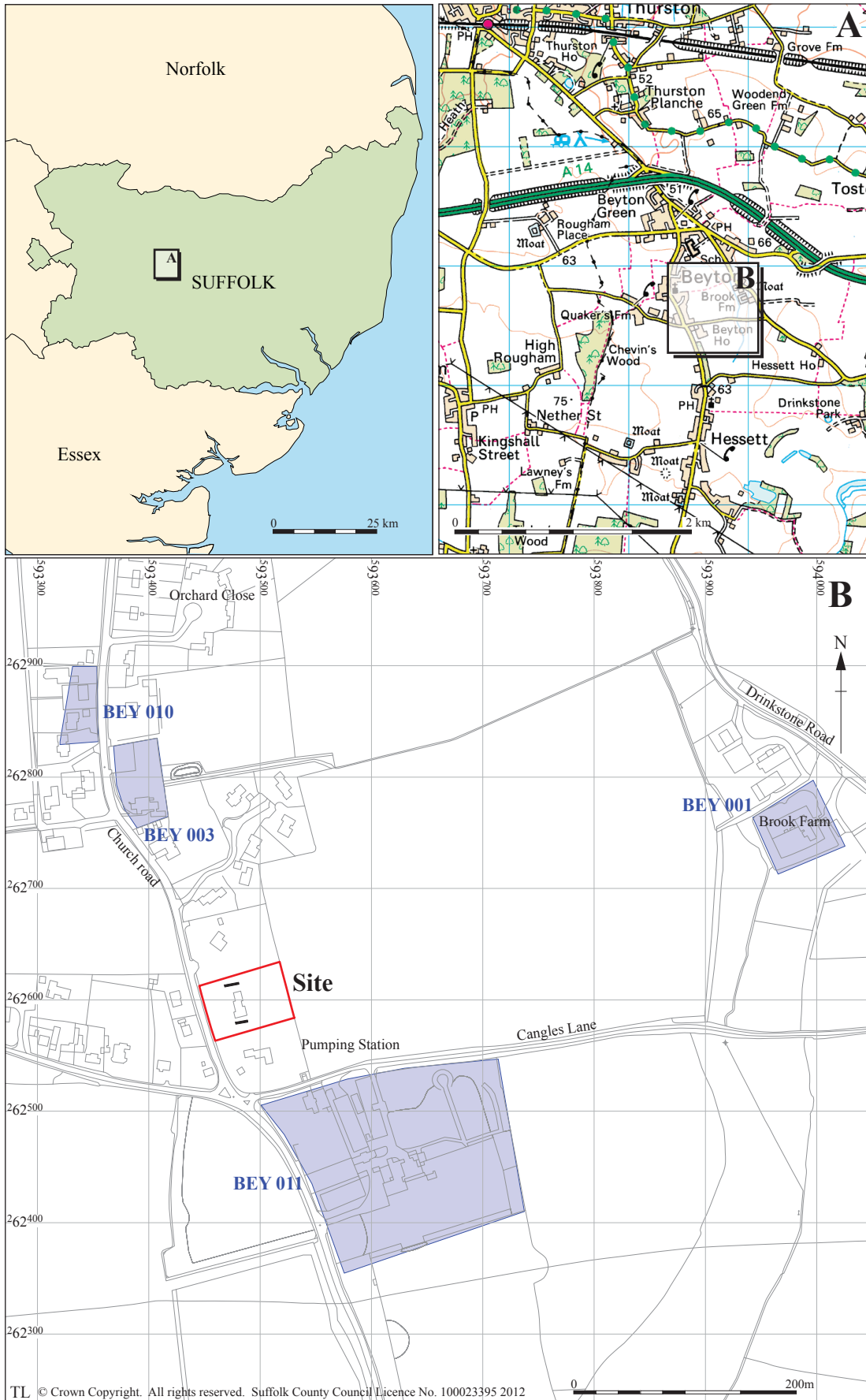


Figure 1. Site location with HER

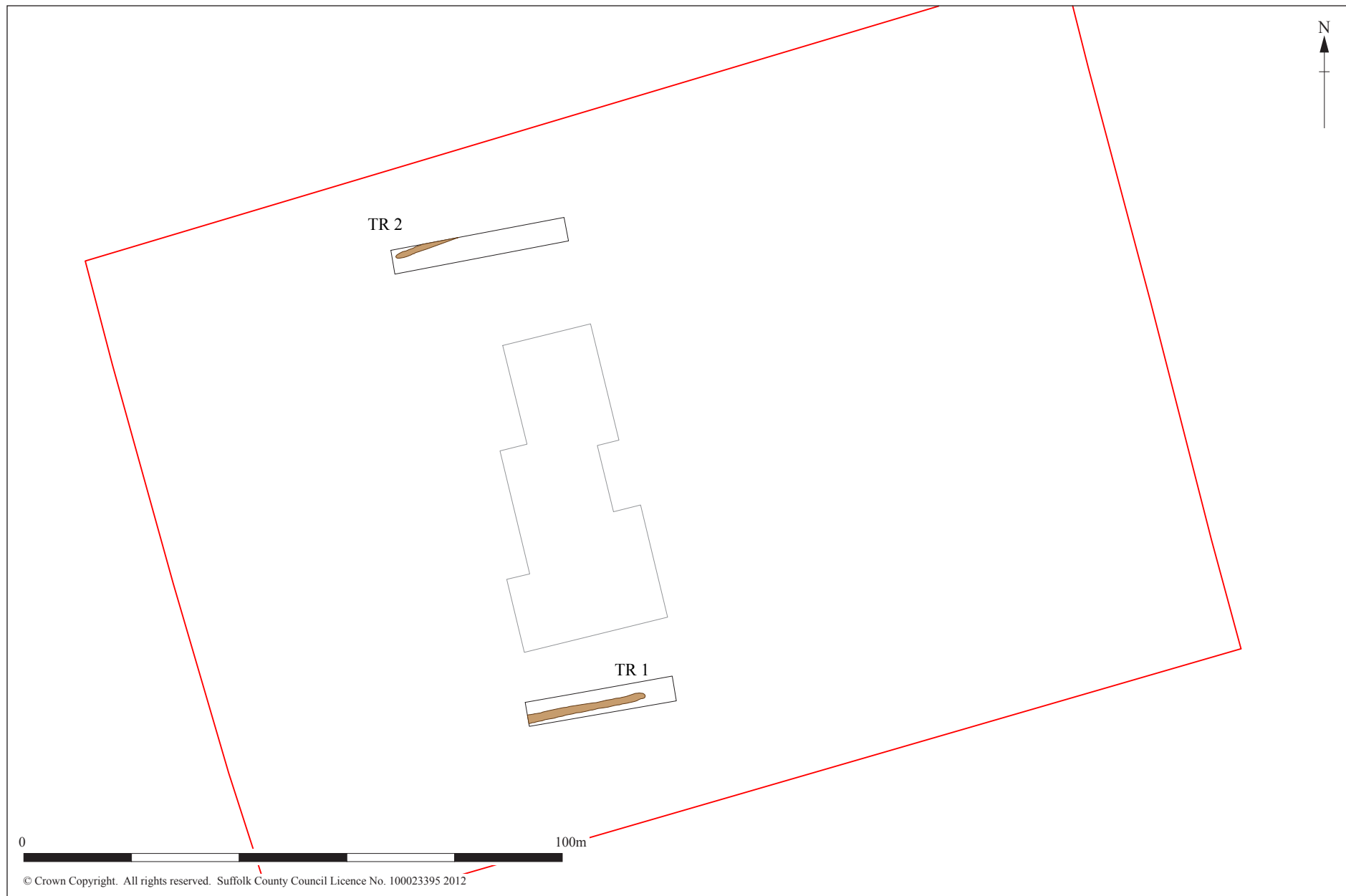


Figure 2. Trench Plan

4. Methodology

Two trenches measuring 10m by 1.8m and 12m by 1.8m were excavated to the north and south of the existing building and through the footprints of the planned housing development. This covered approximately 5% of the overall area to be developed. The trenches were excavated using a mechanical digger fitted with a 1.8m wide ditching bucket. The trenches were excavated to the top of the undisturbed natural where an archaeological horizon was identified. Archaeological features and soil horizons were cleaned and excavated by hand. Sections were drawn of archaeological features and trench soil profiles at a scale of 1:20 and plans of the trenches were drawn at a scale of 1:50. All deposits and cuts were numbered with a unique and continuous numbering system and the site records were made on SCCAS proforma context and trench sheets. All sections and trenches were digitally photographed and the site location was surveyed using a Real Time Kinematics Global positioning system.

5. Results

5.1 Introduction

The excavation of both evaluation trenches revealed two possible post-medieval ditches on a similar alignment. The archaeological horizon in Trench 1 was visible at a depth of around 0.8m whilst in Trench 2 it was 0.6m. It is possible that this difference was due to a natural slope that has been levelled for the creation of the existing house and its grounds.

5.2 Trench results

Trench 1

Trench 1 measured 10m by 1.8m and ran east-north-east to west-south-west through the footprint of the proposed most southerly structure. The trench had a maximum depth of 0.8m, with 0.46m of topsoil 0001, overlying a silty sandy clay possible plough soil 0002. Under this was an orange grey brown silty sandy clay 0005. A single ditch 0012 was found under deposits 0001 and 0002 and possibly cut through 0005, although it is difficult to be certain of the relationship between ditch 0012 and 0005 due to the similarity in colour and nature.

Ditch 0012

This ditch was aligned roughly north-east to south-west along the length of Trench 1 (Fig 3), with a rounded terminus at its eastern end, 1.25m from the end of the trench. Two sections were excavated through it, one at the terminus to the east (0004) and one at its western end (0007) where it ran under the limit of excavation. It was then possible to see the ditches overlying soil deposits, 0001 and 0002, and deposit 0005 which it was probably cut through. Ditch 0012 contained a mid orange-grey sandy clay (0003 and 0006) with one small piece of burnt flint and one small piece of CBM.

Trench 2

Trench 2 measured 12m by 1.8m and was aligned east-north-east to west-south-west through the footprint of the proposed most northerly structure. It was markedly shallower than Trench 1, reaching a maximum depth of 0.58m. There was a shallow layer of sand and gravel at the top that had recently been deposited by the builders, which overlay a

much shallower topsoil deposit (0010) than in Trench 1, reaching a depth of 0.2m. Under this was a probable plough soil 0011. This difference in topsoil depth is probably due to the land being levelled prior to the building of the current house. When plough soil 0011 was removed ditch 0009 was visible underneath.

Ditch 0009

This ditch was aligned approximately north-east to south-west, with a rounded terminal end 0.3m from the western baulk. The ditch extended beyond the trench under the northern limit of excavation. The profile was broad and shallow with steep concave sides and a broad slightly concave base, very similar to that of ditch 0012. It contained fill 0008, which was a mid brownish grey sandy clay. Fill 0008 contained what appeared to be waste from an industrial process and some small abraded pieces of CBM, suggesting that the ditch dates from the post medieval period.



Plate 1. Ditch 0012, Trench 1, facing east-south-east (1m scale).



Plate 2. Ditch 0009, Trench 2, facing north-east (0.3m scale).

6. Finds

Andy Fawcett

Finds were recovered from the fills of two ditches, 0012 in Trench 1 and 0009 in Trench 2. Industrial waste, coal, was also noted within the fill 0008 but was not collected.

Trench 1 Ditch fill 0003

1 oxidised fragment of fired clay (1g), abraded, medium sandy with ?calcite.

2 fragments of worked flint; both are snapped flakes (5g) which are most likely dated to the later prehistoric period.

1 fragment of burnt flint (74g).

Trench 2 Ditch fill 0008

1 oxidised fragment of pot or CBM (3g). It is very abraded (with no surfaces intact) and contains abundant ill sorted calcite and common ill sorted red iron ore. The fragment is not closely datable.

1 oxidised fragment of fired clay (2g), abraded, in a fine sandy fabric with clay pellets and red iron ore.

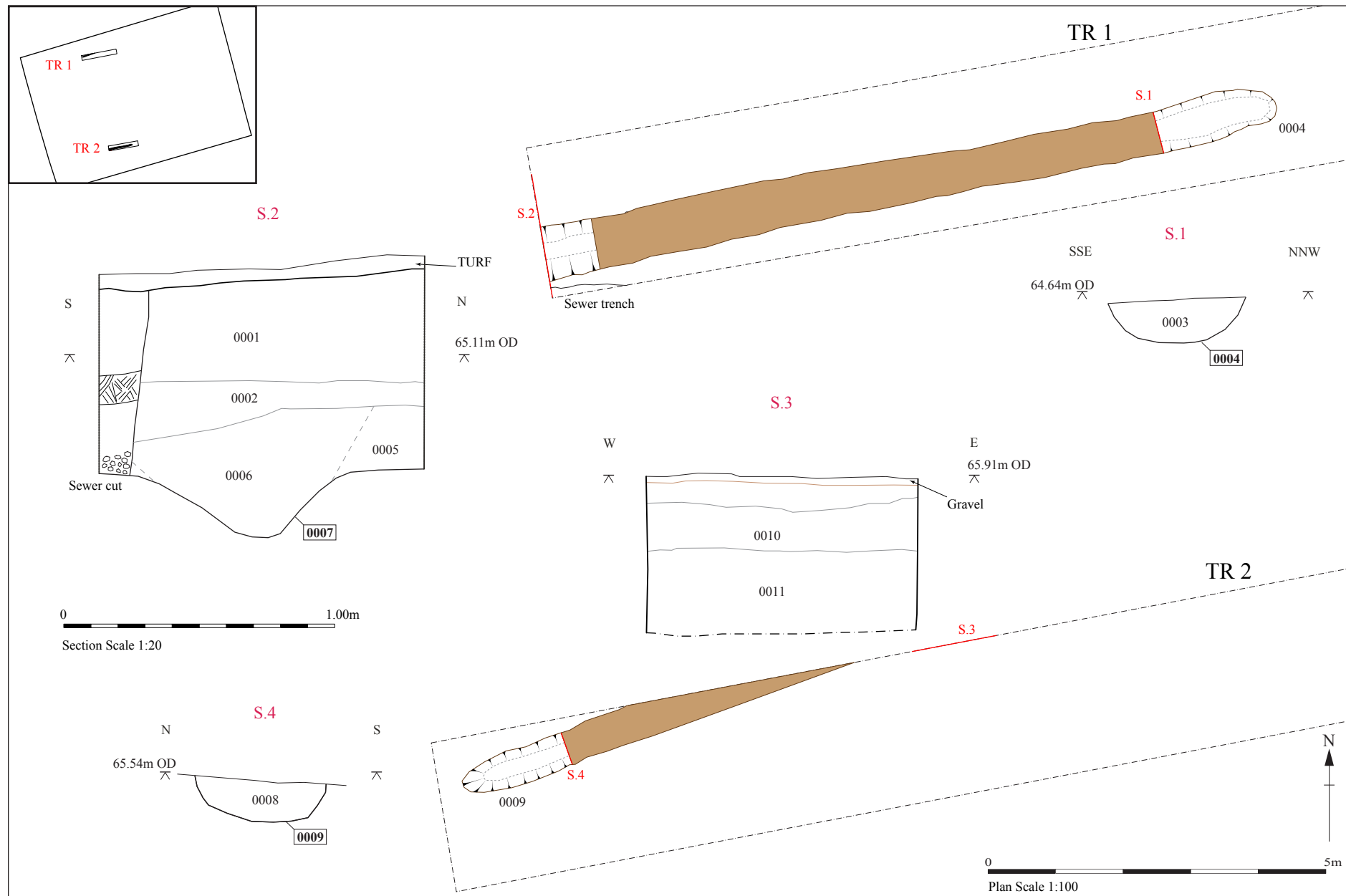


Figure 3. Individual trench plans and sections

7. Discussion

This evaluation revealed two ditches with a very similar alignment and profile. They both run approximately at right angles to the medieval street frontage, suggesting that they probably form property or plot boundaries. Although the dating from these ditches is very limited, the industrial waste and CBM from ditch 0009 would seem to suggest a post-medieval date and the similarity in alignment and profile with ditch 0012 could suggest this was of a similar date. Ditch 0012 appears down slope from ditch 0009 and reflects a natural slope that has probably been levelled for the development of the present house and its gardens. There is no evidence for these features on either the 1885 or 1904 Ordinance Survey maps as the area appears to have been farmland. This would explain probable plough soils 0002 and 0011, and suggests that these ditches were filled in by the mid to late 19th century.

8. Conclusions and recommendations for further work

Undisturbed archaeological features with a possible post-medieval date were discovered in both trenches. This implies that there is some potential for further discoveries during the demolition of the current house and during the ground works for the proposed building plots. It could however be the case that these ditches are marking a field boundary and so further work may only result in an extended survey of these known boundary ditches.

9. Archive deposition

Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

Digital archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental

Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Archive\Beyton\BEY 015

Digital photographic archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental

Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Catalogues\Photos\HPA-HPZ\HPY 23-29

Finds and environmental archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds: H/79/4 Parish Box

10. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by John Sims and Robert Brooks . Project management was undertaken by Andrew Tester.

Post-excavation management was provided by Jo Caruth. Finds processing was undertaken by Jonathon Van Jennians. The specialists finds report was produced by Andy Fawcett.

The report illustrations were created by Beata Wiczorek-Olesky and the report was edited by Jo Caruth.

11. Bibliography

Cotter, J.P., 2000, *Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester 1975-85*.
Colchester Archaeological Report No 7

Ordnance Survey, 1983, *Soils of England and Wales: Soil survey of England and Wales, Sheet 4 Eastern England 1:250,000*. Harpenden.

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

Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation

AT

LAND ADJACENT GLEBE HOUSE, CHURCH ROAD, BEYTON

PLANNING AUTHORITY:	Mid Suffolk District Council
PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:	1533/12
HER NO. FOR THIS PROJECT:	To be arranged
GRID REFERENCE:	TL 934 625
DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL:	Erection of two dwellings and garage (following demolition of existing)
THIS BRIEF ISSUED BY:	Jess Tipper Archaeological Officer Conservation Team Tel. : 01284 741225 E-mail: jess.tipper@suffolk.gov.uk
Date:	6 August 2012

Summary

- 1.1 The Local Planning Authority (LPA) has been advised that any planning consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of archaeological investigation work taking place before development takes place in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA.
- 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 a Trenched 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 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.
- 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 application, for the erection of a dwelling and garage (following demolition of the existing dwelling, lies in an area of archaeological interest close to the medieval church (HER no. BEY 003), defined in the County Historic Environment Record. There is high potential for medieval and earlier occupation 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.

Fieldwork Requirements for Archaeological Investigation

- 3.1 A linear trenched evaluation is required of the development area to enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified.
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 Two linear trenches which add up to a total length of 20.00m (each 1.80m wide) are to be excavated to cover the areas of the new development. In this instance, two 10.00m long x 1.80m wide trenches would be satisfactory.
- 3.5 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

- 4.1 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.

- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 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

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 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.
- 5.4 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.
- 5.5 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.
- 5.6 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.
- 5.7 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.
- 5.8 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.
- 5.9 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*.

- 5.10 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 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	Feature	Feature	Description/Interpretation	Finds	Overall	Env.	Trench
0001		Topsoil Layer	Mid-dark grey brown silty clay with orange striations, of a compact nature. Occasional small rounded flint gravels.	No		No	1
0002		plough soil Layer	Topsoil. Mid orange grey brown silty clay, of a compact nature. Occasional angular and rounded medium and small flints. Horizon clear.	No		No	1
0003	0004	Ditch Fill	Mid orangeish-grey sandy clay, of a friable nature. Common small sub-angular to rounded stones. Common root disturbance. Sharp horizon clarity.	No		No	1
0004	0004	Ditch Cut	Ditch fill. Linear ditch, aligned WSW-ENE. 45-50 degree concave sides, with curving break of slope to base. Flat base.	No		No	1
0005		Layer Layer	Ditch terminus cut. Mirrors existing boundary to south, so may be a boundary ditch. Similar alignment and profile to [0009]. Mid orange grey brown silty sandy clay, of a firm nature. Occasional small rounded flints. Horizon with natural clear.	No		No	1
0006	0007	Ditch Fill	Layer in trench 1 possibly cut by ditch [0007]. Mid orange grey brown silty sandy clay, of a firm compaction. Occasional small rounded and sub-angular flints, rare medium sized flints. Root disturbance.	No		No	
0007	0007	Ditch Cut	Fill of ditch. Linear in plan, approx E-W alignment. Profile, sharp break of slope, approximately 45 degrees leading to slightly convex sides and a concave base. Possibly cuts layer (0005). Cut of ditch, same as [0004].	No		No	1

Context	Feature	Feature	Description/Interpretation	Finds Overall	Env.	Trench
0008	0009	Ditch Fill	Mid brownish-grey sandy clay. Friable to firm compaction. Common small sub-angular stones. Occasional greyish-yellow clay lumps. Sharp horizon clarity. Only fill. Root disturbed.	No	No	2
0009	0009	Ditch Cut	Ditch fill. Contained two small heavily abraded CBM fragments. Linear in plan, aligned WSW-ESE. 45-60 degree concave sides with a curving brak of slope to base. Flat/slightly concave base.	No	No	2
0010		Topsoil Layer	Cut of ditch terminus. Similar alignment and profile to [0004]. Boundary ditch? Mid-dark grey brown silty clay with orange striations, of a compact nature.	No	No	2
0011		plough soil Layer	Occasional small rounded flint gravels. Rare chalk flecks. Topsoil. Mid orange grey brown silty clay, of a compact nature. Occasional angular and rounded, medium and small sized flints. Horizon clear.	No	No	2
0012		Ditch Cut	Plough soil. Group number given to combine the cuts of 0004 and 0007 into one.	No	No	1

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Contact:

Rhodri Gardner

Tel: 01473 265879 Fax: 01473 216864

rhodri.gardner@suffolk.gov.uk

www.suffolk.gov.uk/Environment/Archaeology/