Richmond House, 20 Nethergate Street, Clare
CLA 071

Archaeological Excavation Report

SCCAS Report No. 2012/130

Client: Prof. and Dr. Barwise

Author: Simon Cass

March 2013

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Author: Simon Cass

Contributions By: Andy Fawcett, Richenda Goffin, Colin Pendleton and Justine Biddle

Illustrators: Beata Wieczorek-Oleksy and Crane Begg

Editor: Richenda Goffin

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Prepared By:	Simon Cass
Date:	22/03/2013
Approved By:	Jo Caruth
Position:	Senior Project Officer
Date:	
Signed:	

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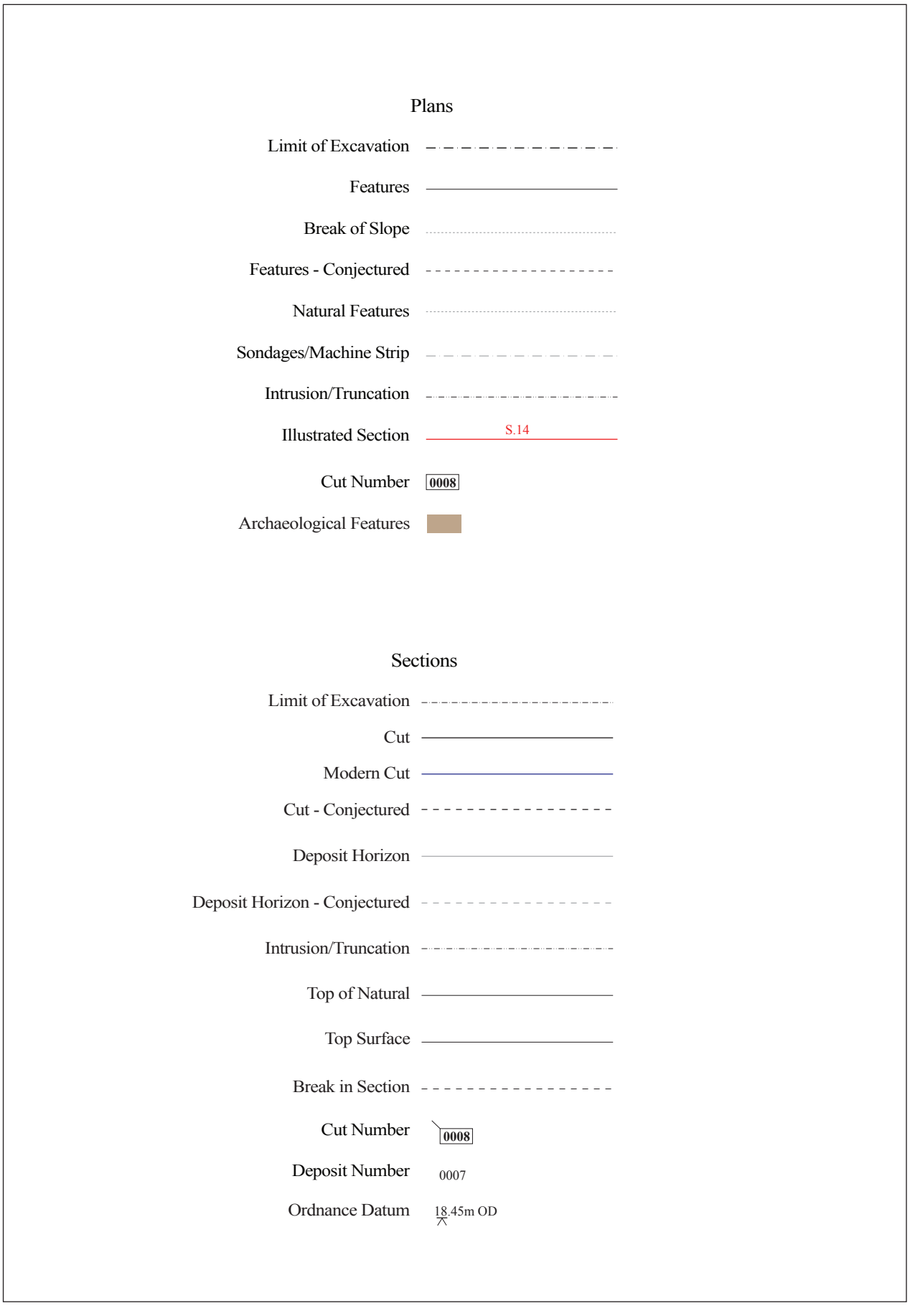
Summary

A requirement for archaeological investigatory works was placed on a planning permission for a new swimming pool to be dug to the rear of 20 Nethergate Street, Clare (Richmond House). This consisted of an initial trial trench evaluation carried out in June 2011 (SCCAS Report 2011/101) which confirmed the presence of material remains and stratified deposits of medieval date within the proposed footprint of the new pool excavation area. As a consequence, further archaeological mitigation was required to be undertaken prior to the construction of the pool. This further work revealed several large medieval and post-medieval pit features and a number of smaller modern features which have been interpreted as garden/domestic waste pits.

The animal bone identified from the historic contexts appears to suggest that some form of hide-working (possibly tanning) was taking place nearby with a distinct pattern of horn and lower limb bone recovery as opposed to axial skeletal remains. Although this may indicate the presence of a tannery nearby, none of the pits seen had a surviving lining and would not have been appropriate for the initial stages of the process in the form they are in now. Similar features and artefacts have been seen to the rear of 22 Nethergate Street (CLA 054) and it appears that there may well have been a tannery site in the close vicinity the 12th – 14th centuries though further archaeological investigation in the future will be required to confirm this.

Drawing Conventions



1. Introduction

An archaeological excavation was undertaken on land to the rear of Richmond House (20 Nethergate Street), Clare in September 2012 prior to the construction of a swimming pool in the garden area behind the dwelling (planning application number SE/11/0099). This forms the final stage of fieldwork carried out in relation to this planning permission; an earlier field evaluation was undertaken in 2011 by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Field Team (SCCAS/FT) and has already been reported on – SCCAS report no. 2011/101. The requirement for this excavation was set out in a Brief and Specification issued by Dr. Jess Tipper of SCCAS Conservation Team and formed Condition 5 of the permission.

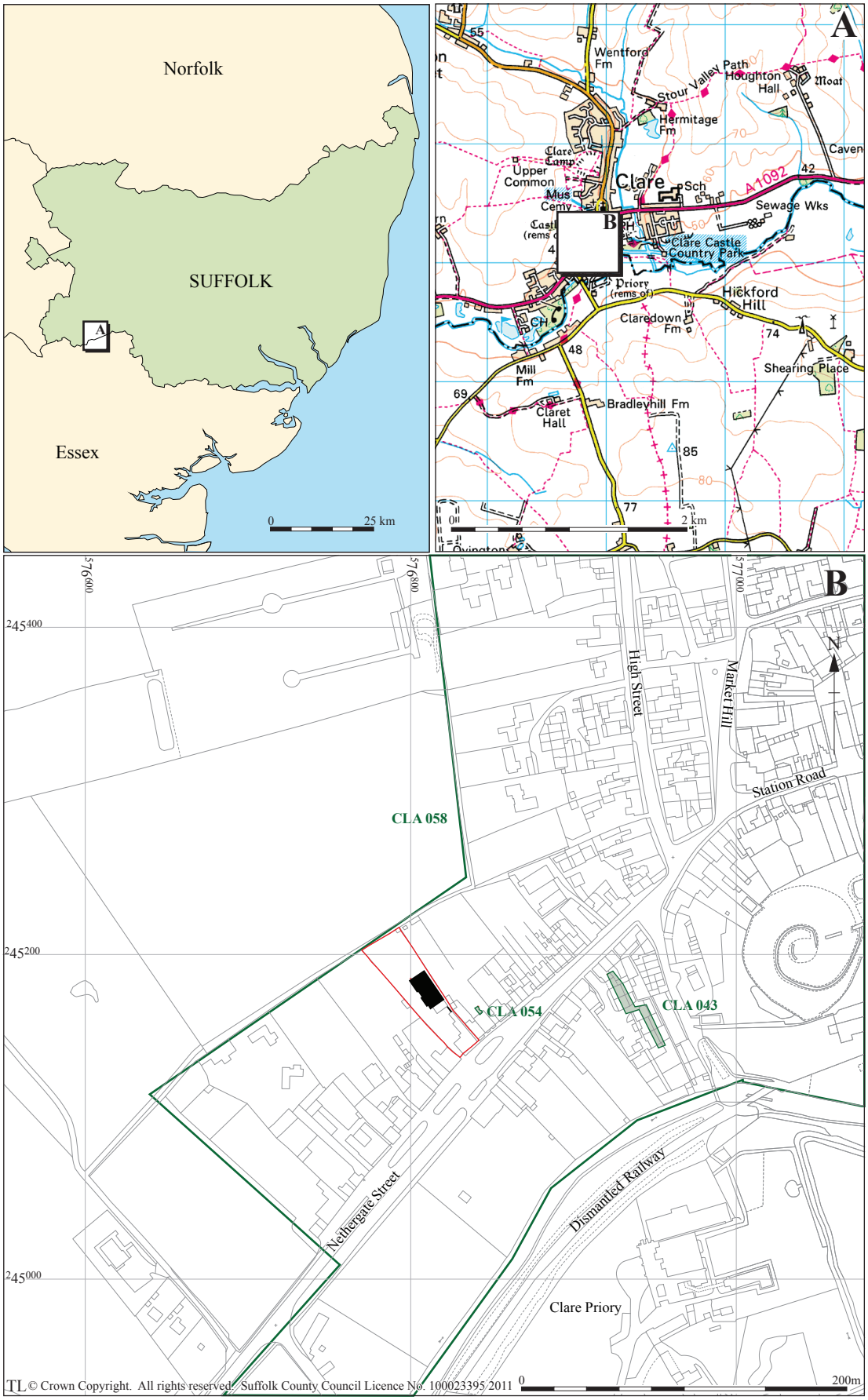


Figure 1. Location map showing local sites recorded on the Historic Environment Record (green), the excavation area (black) and then the development area (red)

Figure 2. Detailed site plan, showing evaluation trench location(green) over recorded features

2. The Excavation

2.1 Site location

The site is located to the rear of Richmond House, off Nethergate Street and to the south-west of the centre of Clare (Fig. 1).

2.2 Geology and topography

The site occupies a south-east facing slope which is about 130m from the River Stour. Within the property the land rises from c. 47m to c.50m OD. The natural geology is chalk with superficial deposits of clay silt sand and gravel (British Geological Survey). The excavation area was grassed over prior to work commencing, with a hedge to the north and an outhouse to the south.

2.3 Archaeological and historical background

Clare has a rich archaeological heritage with significant earthworks dating from the Iron Age. Richmond House lies within the area defined for the medieval town of Clare in the County Historic Environment Record (CLA 058). Clare was a late Anglo-Saxon manor with a collegiate church, founded by Earl Aelfric *c.*1045 (believed to lie within the later castle complex) and by 1066 a market had been established. Clare was acquired by Richard Fitz-Gilbert after the Norman Conquest (his grandson took the name 'de Clare') who had built the motte and bailey castle by 1090. Richard de Clare founded the Priory for the canons of St Augustine in 1248 and the parish church of Saints Peter and Paul at about the same time. Clare Camp, also known as Erbury, on the north side of the town, was probably an Iron Age fort but was certainly used as a manorial centre during the medieval period. The woollen cloth trade was important from the late 14th to early 16th century and the finest of the town's timber-framed buildings belong to this period. Finds from neighbouring sites include medieval pits from No.22. Nethergate Street (CLA 054) and a Roman ditch and medieval pits when the Boathouse Mews was built (CLA 043).

The previous archaeological evaluation carried out on the site in June 2011 uncovered at least seven cut features dating between the 12th to 19th centuries. Finds from the site included twenty-five sherds of medieval pottery dated from the 12th to 14th centuries although the majority of these were found in later contexts.

3. Methodology

The site was stripped for excavation in two stages – first the layout of the outer retaining walls and the extension to the outbuilding were stripped, then once those areas had been erected the main area of the new swimming pool was excavated with an 8-tonne tracked mechanical excavator. All stripping was with a toothless 'ditching' bucket under constant archaeological supervision, and spoil was removed from the site as it was stripped. The total area of the archaeological investigation was 198 square meters. All works were undertaken in accordance with SCCAS/CT guidelines for Archaeological Excavation 2011 and Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003).

All features were hand excavated, with linear ditches being sampled at approximately 10%, equating to a section of 1m length being dug every 10m. Discrete pits and postholes were all half-sectioned (50% excavated) and recorded, then where appropriate fully excavated to maximise artefact recovery and soil sample retention. All features were scanned with a metal detector and periodic area scans were undertaken in order to attempt to recover any stray finds not within identified features.

Environmental samples were taken for processing and analysis from appropriate features, with regard to nationally accepted guidelines issued by English Heritage. These samples were processed in-house and the recovered ecofacts sent to appropriate specialists while any significant bulk finds recovered from this source were included in the main finds reporting process.

Site plans and sections were all hand-drawn on permatrace sheets in accordance with SCCAS standard guidelines, and the site was surveyed using a Leica GPS survey instrument to an accuracy of c. 0.02m or less.

4. Results

4.1 Introduction

Several pits were identified during the excavation of the swimming pool area, dating to either the medieval or early post-medieval and modern periods. No linear ditch features or post alignments were observed, which will be discussed later (Fig. 2).

4.2 Medieval features

A number of pits were identified and excavated over the course of this archaeological recording project. In the main the pits were large, deep and circular or ovoid in plan and were found towards the southern part of the site, towards both edges of the excavation area (possibly pointing towards their being situated along the edges of the property boundary).

Pit 0036 was an irregular ovoid/semi-rectangular pit with irregularly sloped near-vertical sides and a base which was not seen at a depth of 1.55m below the original ground surface. An approximate diameter of 1.6m has been extrapolated for the entire feature (though it was not fully exposed in the excavation area) and the pottery recovered has been dated to the medieval period (12th - 14th century). It was filled with a dark greyish brown firm silty clay with occasional/moderate small/medium sub-rounded/sub-angular flints and stones (gravels).

Pit 0038 was an irregular ovoid-shaped shallow dished pit orientated approximately north-south adjoining 0036, situated just to the north of that feature. It was 1.8m long, 1.3m wide and 0.35m deep with a gently sloped eastern side and a steeper western edge, filled with a mid greyish brown firm silty clay with occasional/moderate small/medium sub-rounded/sub-angular flints and stones (gravels). The horizon between the natural and this deposit was slightly obscured by bioturbation, though was reasonably clear nonetheless.

Pit 0040 was approximately 1.85m in diameter, though again not entirely visible within the excavation area at the time of recording. It was excavated to a depth of 0.65m below the level of the natural (c. 1.1m below surface level) but not bottomed, and found to have straight vertical sides. A layer of compacted chalky clay (0041) with occasional

small/medium flints and stones was noted capping the top of the feature (Pl. 1) but the main fill (0042) was a dark brownish fairly loose grey clayey silty sand with occasional small flints and stones.

Plate 1. Pit 0040, facing south-west (2m and 1m scales)

Pit 0043 was a large semi-rectangular pit, with steep (near-vertical or heavily concave) sides to a concave base, 2.74m long, at least 1.2m wide and 0.8m deep (below natural level), orientated approximately north-south. It was filled with a mid brown moderately compacted silty sandy clay with occasional chalk flecks and rounded/broken small flints and stones (Pl. 2). Pottery, animal bone and ceramic building material were all recovered from this feature.

Plate 2. Pit 0043, facing north-west (2m and 1m scales)

Pit 0045/0057 was encountered on the western side of the excavation area, and was 2.28m long by 1.8m wide with an irregular ovoid shape in plan, extending out of the excavation area slightly on its north-western edge. It was filled with a mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional chalk and charcoal flecks as well as small/medium flints and stones and mid yellow chalky clay lumps (Pl. 3 and Pl. 4). It was 1.1m deep where bottomed, with vertical sides to a flattish base.

Plate 3. Pit 0045/0057 facing south-west (2 x 1m scales)

Plate 4. Pit 0045/0057, facing north-east (1m scale)

Pit 0047 was seen in the south-western corner of the footings for the pool retaining wall; it was 1.4m deep and 3.7m long, with a visible width of c. 1.25 (though this probably only represents half of the total width, based on the surface shape of the feature). It was the most complex feature encountered during the excavation, containing four distinct deposits, with two additional probable pit features (0054 and 0055) seen in the section, cut through the upper fills. There was an apparent step on the north-western edge of the pit at a depth of c. 0.6m below the topsoil, with a steep sloped concave side before and after it to a shallow flattish base (Pl. 5). This pit contained most of the recovered animal bone and appears to have been related to hide-working activity being carried out on or near to the site during this time. Deposit 0051 was the basal fill of the pit, a very dark grey/black sandy-silt with frequent small stones but was only noted patchily across the base of the cut. It was sealed by 0048, a mottled dark grey and orange firm sandy-silt, becoming darker/more grey towards trench edge with frequent small stones (gravel), especially within the orangey material. Some medium sized (0.1 x 0.15m) rounded stones were noted in the base of the fill in places.

Deposit 0048 was overlain by 0049, a dark grey firm sandy-silt, containing frequent small stones and occasional charcoal flecks with a diffuse to clear horizon. Deposit 0052 was the uppermost fill of this pit. It was a mottled orange and dark grey sandy-silt with common small to medium rounded stones and occasional oyster shells and was partially truncated by pit 0055.

Pit 0055, cut into the upper fills of 0047 was approximately 1m wide and 0.6m deep with a moderately steep concave profile to a shallow concave base and it was filled with a brownish orange clayey sandy silt with occasional chalk flecks and moderate small stones, interpreted as redeposited natural.

Feature 0054 was a shallow concave feature visibly cut into the top of pit 0055 and it was filled with topsoil, interpreted as a modern intrusive feature.

Plate 5. Pits 0047, 0055 and 0054, facing south-west (2m and 1m scales)

Two smaller pits were also identified as belonging to this period, both towards the southern end of the excavation area. These may be pits for domestic waste disposal unlike the larger pits (which would likely have been excessive for domestic use, and did not display a typical artefactual assemblage for domestic waste or cess).

Pit 0019 was 1.95m long, 1.2m wide and up to 0.32m deep, orientated approximately north-south and situated towards the south-eastern corner of the site with steep/near

vertical concave sides to a flattish base (Pl. 6). It was filled with a mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate chalk and charcoal flecks and occasional small flints and stones.

Plate 6. Pit 0019, facing south-east (1m scale)

Pit 0021 was a small ovoid pit with steep sloped slightly irregular sides to a flattish base (orientated approx. N-S), situated just east of pit 0047 but not entirely exposed during the excavation. It was 0.9m long, 0.7m wide and up to 0.3m deep and was filled with a mid greyish brown firm/plastic silty clay with occasional small/medium stone inclusions.

4.3 Early post-medieval features

Two features were identified as being of early post-medieval date: the two large pits in the southern corner of the site at the corner of the existing coach-house (0030/0032 and 0023/0034). Pit 0030/0032 had rounded ends with steep sloped concave sides to a shallow concave base while 0023/0034 had squarer ends and was slightly wider, with steeper straight sides to a flattish base and a slightly darker grey brown sandy silt fill than that in 0023/0034 (Pl. 7). While the pottery found in 0032/0034 had a slightly earlier dating range from the 15th–16th centuries, during excavation it was found to have been cut through the edge of 0030/0032 which contained pottery dating to the 16th -18th centuries. Very little animal bone was found within this feature and it would appear that the site had become a more typical residential area by this time.

Plate 7. Pit 0023/0034 and 0030/0032 facing north-east (2m scale)

4.4 Modern features

The central area of the site was found to have a marked absence of historic features, and a concentration of modern pits and disturbances. A number of these were excavated although they were only minimally recorded when their date was ascertained, mainly proving to be shallow irregularly based pits and irregular features (see Pl. 8 for examples). Some, generally towards the northern edges of the excavation area contained a significant quantity of ashy deposits and burnt material, suggesting their likely provenance as garden waste/bonfire pits, while others (towards the centre of the site) seem to be more likely related to horticultural activity (flower beds and the locations of shrubs and small trees).

One pit towards the southern end of the area was deeper, containing brick lumps and ceramic domestic sewage pipe segments and this pit may have been connected to a listed building consent for alterations to the building given in 1984 (E/84/2156/LB), although no further details are available at this time to confirm what the nature of these alterations were. If not this, then an earlier (but still 20th century) repair or addition to the existing buildings appears to be the most likely reason for the presence of this pit.

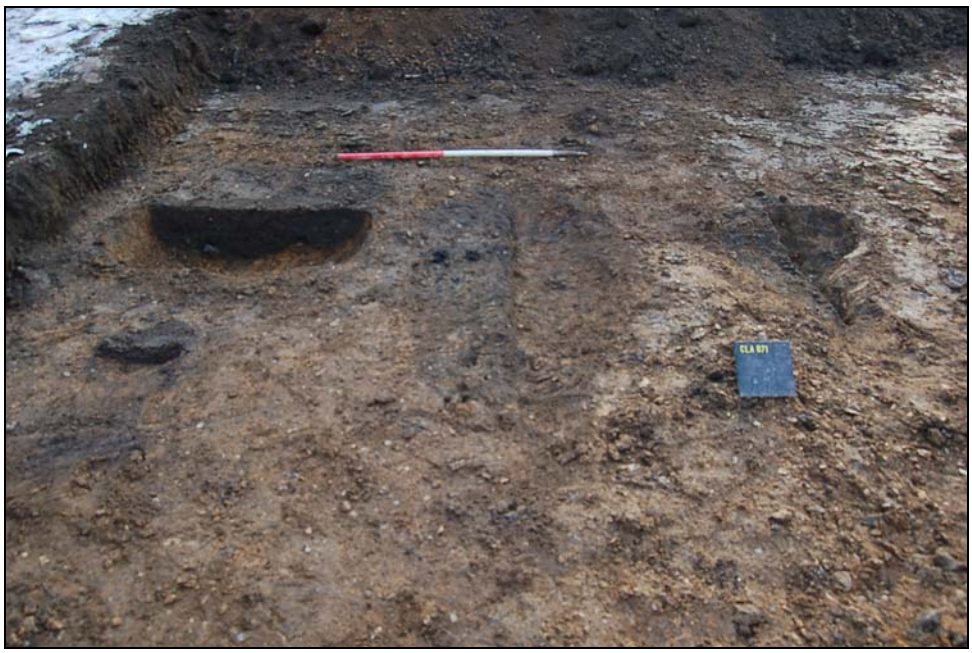


Plate 8. Modern pits in northern excavation area, facing south (1m scale)

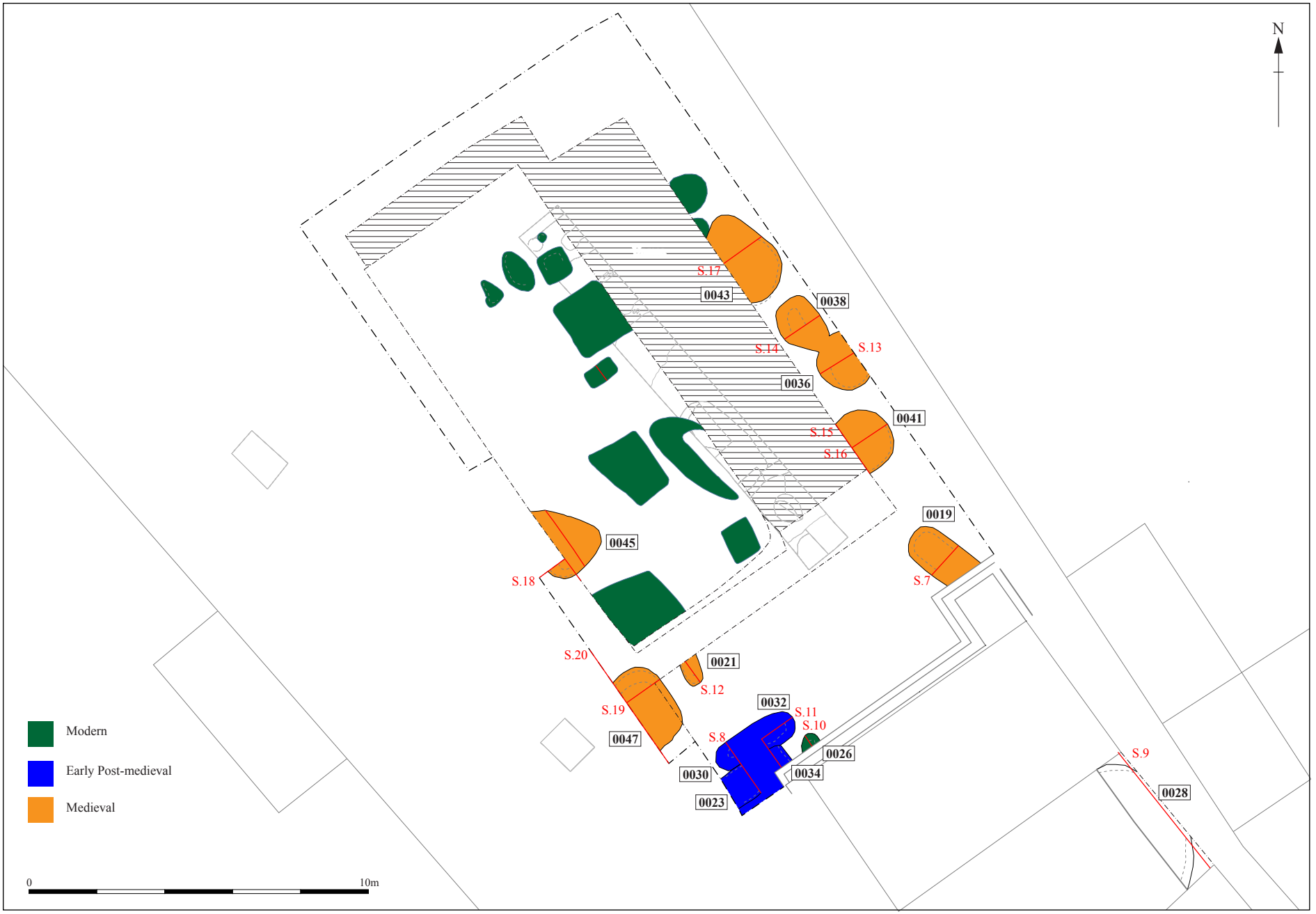


Figure 3. Phased site plan

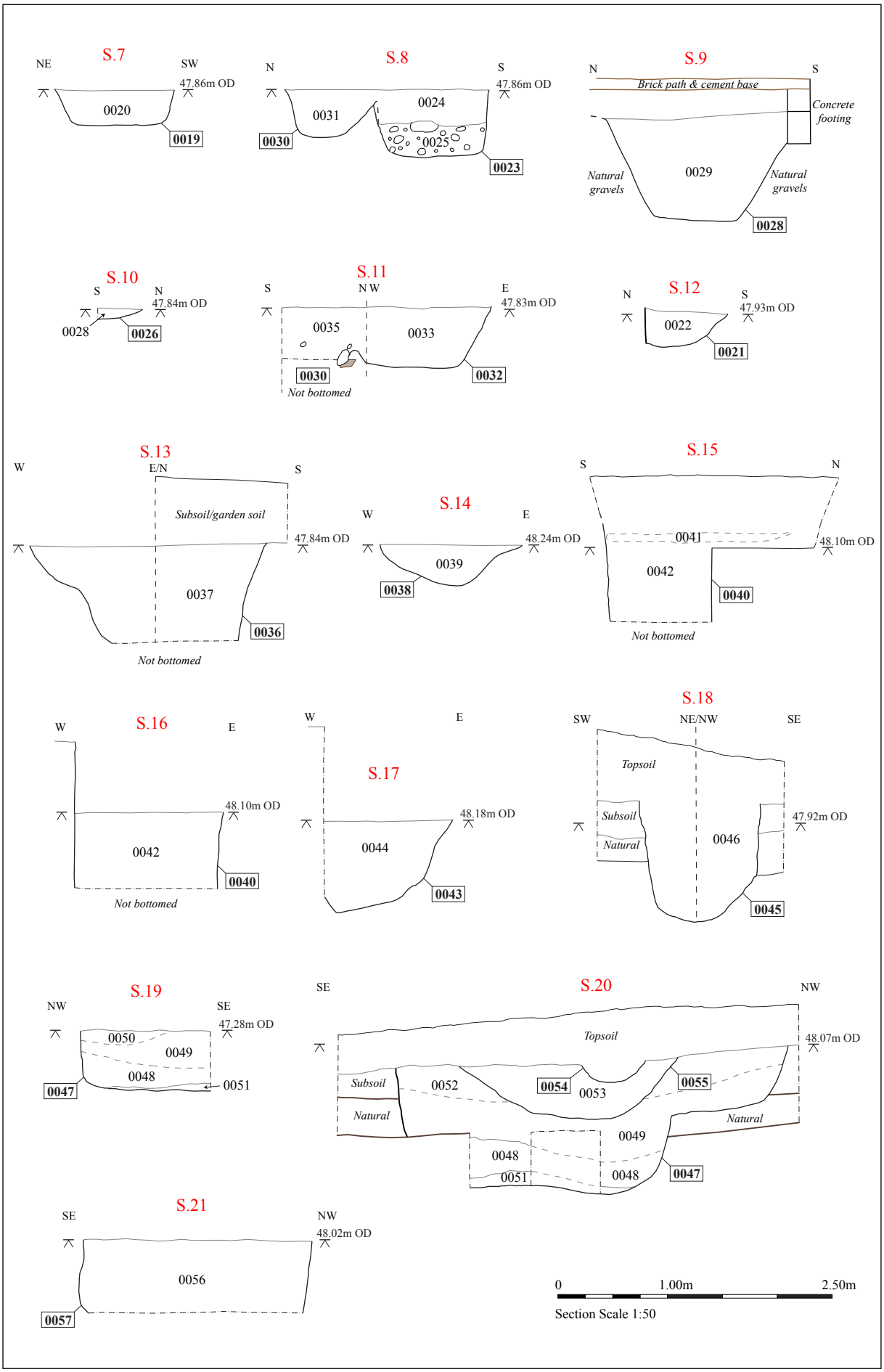


Figure 4. Sections

5. The finds evidence

Andy Fawcett

5.1 Introduction

Table 1 shows the quantities of finds collected in each context from the archaeological excavation. Finds were recorded in seventeen contexts, all of which are pit fills. Two small finds were also identified and these have been recorded separately. A full contextual breakdown of the finds can be seen in Appendix 3.

Find type	No	Wgt/g
Pottery	84	715
CBM	45	3505
Fired clay	1	5
Clay tobacco pipe	3	7
Worked flint	2	7
Burnt flint	5	23
Iron nail	1	3
Slag	2	1
Animal bone	243	3166
Shell	32	103
Totals	**418**	**7535**

Table 1. Finds quantities

5.2 Pottery

With Richenda Goffin

Introduction and methodology

Eighty-four sherds of pottery with a weight of 715g were recorded in seventeen pit fills from the excavation. Almost the entire assemblage is medieval with only a very small number of sherds dated to the post-medieval period. The pottery has been examined at x20 vision and allocated to fabric groups. Codes have been assigned to these groups using the SCCAS fabric series (SCCAS). All of the pottery has been recorded by sherd count, weight and E.V.E. A full contextual breakdown of the pottery can be seen in Appendix 4.

Medieval

The medieval pottery assemblage is predominantly dated from the mid/late 12th to 14th century. Although the group consists mainly of body sherds, a small number of rim

sherds are also present. The condition of the pottery may be described as being between abraded and slightly abraded.

The earliest recorded fabric (pit fill 0056) is a single body sherd of Early medieval ware (EMW) dated from the 11th to 12th century. The fabric is sandy and shell dusted and is equivalent to Cotter's fabric 13S (2000). The sherd was noted alongside pottery dated from the late 12th to 14th century and is likely to be contemporary with these.

The assemblage dated from mid/late 12th to 14th century contains a small number of glazed wares but is chiefly made up of coarse wares. The glazed wares include a total of four sherds of Hedingham fine ware (HFW), recorded in contexts 0025, 0042 and 0048. Within this collection a single inturned and beaded rim was noted which was probably from a rounded jug. Single sherds of Grimston-type ware (GRIM) and an Unprovenanced glazed ware (UPG) were also identified.

The majority of sherds dated to this period are classed as general medieval coareswares (MCW) which occur in a variety of quartz based fabrics. A small number of jar/cooking pot rims are present within this group, the majority of which were recorded in pitfill 0049. The form assemblage includes Essex-type jars with flat topped rims (0039 and 0048) as well as a version with a thickened flat top similar to Cotter's type B2 (2000, 50). Other styles include types with a neckless and flanged rim (0049).

Only a single sherd in pitfill 0025 (which is accompanied by 12th to 14th century sherds too) is dated from the later medieval period onwards. This is a body sherd of Late Essex-type ware (LMTE) which has a date range of 15th to 16th century.

Post-medieval

Two contexts are dated to the post-medieval period. The first of these (fill 0027) contains two abraded joining sherds of Refined white earthenware (REFW) dated from the late 18th to 20th century. Single body sherds of Glazed red earthenware (GRE) and Iron glazed black ware (IGBW) dated from the 16th to 18th century are present in fill 0033.

5.3 Ceramic building material (CBM)

Fragments of CBM were recorded in eleven of the pit fills. The assemblage is almost completely dominated by roof tile fragments (RT) with only three small pieces of early/late brick being recorded. In terms of condition, apart from being fragmentary, the assemblage may be described as being between abraded and slightly abraded. Much of the CBM assemblage is only broadly dateable, for instance from the medieval or late medieval to post-medieval period. However, of the eleven contexts in which CBM occurs, ten of these also contain medieval pottery. A full contextual breakdown of the CBM assemblage can be seen in Appendix 5.

The majority of roof tile fragments are fully oxidised and these occur mostly in a medium sandy fabric (ms), occasionally with flint (msf) or calcite (msc). These fabric types are quite long-lived and date mostly from the later medieval to post-medieval period. Several medieval roof tile fragments are present within the assemblage which display grey cores, such as those in contexts 0037, 0042 and 0056.

Only contexts 0020 and 0025 contained brick fragments (3 pieces @ 1232g). It is not possible to determine if these are early or late brick fragments (E/LB), by their dimensional measurements or fabrics. However the fabrics of the pieces in fill 0020, which are medium sandy (ms) with occasional flint, chalk and large voids, suggest that they are more likely dated to the medieval period.

5.4 Fired clay

A single small and abraded piece of fired clay was noted in pit fill 0020. The fragment is oxidised and medium sandy with abundant ill-sorted chalk (msch). No marks or impressions are present on the fragment. Medieval pottery and CBM are also present within the context.

5.5 Clay tobacco pipe

Two pit fills (0025 and 0035) contained small stem fragments of clay tobacco pipe dated to the post-medieval period. Both of the contexts also contained medieval pottery and CBM dated to the medieval/post-medieval period.

5.6 Worked flint

Identified by Colin Pendleton

Two fragments of worked flint were recorded, one each in pitfills 0046 and 0049. The first is an unpatinated squat flake which exhibits a natural striking platform and a hinge fracture. A second flint is an unpatinated squat flake. The fragments are possibly residual from the later prehistoric period however they may also represent later walling materials.

5.7 Burnt flint

Five fragments of burnt flint were recovered from pit fill 0049 as part of the sampling strategy (Sample 1). They are all coloured light grey and may have been used in the 'pot boiling' process (associated with the preparation and cooking of food during the prehistoric period). The burnt flint is residual, being accompanied by medieval pottery.

5.8 Iron

A single fragment of an iron nail was retrieved as part of the sampling strategy in pit fill 0049 (Sample 1). Virtually the entire shaft of the nail is missing and the head is completely covered by thick corrosion products. Pottery dating to the medieval period is also present within the context.

5.9 Slag

Two very small and worn pieces of non-metallic fuel slag were noted in pit fill 0042. The context also contains both medieval pottery and CBM.

5.10 The small finds

Identified by Justine Biddle

Two small finds were recorded in two separate pit fills, 0025 and 0056.

1. A plain domed shape copper alloy mount that was possibly used on a belt or a box. The mount is hollow and its base clearly displays a flattened edge from where it would have been affixed. The mount dates from the medieval to post-medieval period. This context also contains pottery dated from the mid 12th to 16th century. SF1001 (0025).

2. An iron fish hook that appears to be complete. The area behind the tip of the hook has been flattened and below this is a single barb. The shaft of the hook also has a nodule near its top that was possibly used as an aid for tying the line. The hook is dated from the medieval to post-medieval period, but in this context it is accompanied by medieval pottery. SF1002 (0056).

6. The environmental evidence

6.1 Faunal remains

Justine Biddle

In total 243 fragments of faunal material were recorded from fifteen contexts. All of the material was hand-collected and it was possible to indentify 87% (212 fragments) of the assemblage to species and element. Table 2 shows the number of fragments and total weight by context.

Context	No	Wgt/g
0020	1	16
0022	2	42
0025	2	35
0027	1	14
0033	1	7
0037	5	211
0039	4	15
0042	1	7
0044	8	84
0046	1	3
0048	112	778
0049	63	1559
0050	30	310
0051	7	38
0056	5	38
TOTAL	**243**	**3157**

Table 2. Number of fragments and weight by context

Table 3 shows the number of fragments by species.

Context	Cow	Sheep/Goat	Pig	Cat	Unid mammal	Unid bird
0020	-	-	1	-	-	-
0022	2	-	-	-	-	-
0025	1	1	-	-	-	-
0027	-	1	-	-	-	-
0033	-	1	-	-	-	-
0037	1	4				
0039	-	1	-	-	2	1
0042	-	-	1	-	-	-
0044	2	1	-	-	3	2
0046	-	-	-	-	1	-
0048	110	-	-	-	2	-
0049	40	5	-	-	18	-
0050	30	-	-	-	-	-
0051	7	-	-	-	-	-
0056	1	-	-	2	2	-
TOTAL	**194**	**14**	**2**	**2**	**28**	**3**

Table 3. Number of fragments by species

The majority of the fragments are from three contexts, 0048, 0049 and 0050 and are mainly from cattle as shown in Table 3. These all contain high proportions of skull fragments and loose teeth. The high proportion of skull and foot elements throughout the assemblage, with only seventeen elements being upper limb or axial, suggests that it represents waste from skins and that tanning was possibly carried out on or near to the site. Even if the high numbers of skull fragments and teeth from these contexts are discounted, 78% of the assemblage is still foot and lower limb bones suggesting that the association with the processing of cattle hides is still likely.

There are no specific butchery techniques or other characteristics which would suggest a particular period for this assemblage but a medieval to post-medieval date is likely.

Table 4 shows a summary of additional information that could be obtained from the assemblage. However, due to the composition of the assemblage and scarcity of additional information which can be obtained from the recovered fragments, no further work would be required on the assemblage.

Modifications	**Ageing**		**Metrical**	
Butchered	**Tooth-wear**	**Epiphyseal fusion**	**Measureable**	**Complete**
0	0	4	1	11

Table 4. Summary of potential for further animal bone data

6.2 Plant macrofossils and other remains

Anna West

Introduction and methods

Two samples were taken from archaeological features and both were processed in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains. The contexts sampled both came from pits containing medieval pottery.

The samples were processed using manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. Once dried the flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at x16 magnification and the presence of any plant macro remains

or artefacts were recorded in Table 5. Identification of plant remains is with reference to New Flora of the British Isles (Stace 1997).

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh and sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts were retained for inclusion in the finds total.

Quantification

For this initial assessment, macro-remains such as seeds, cereal grains and small animal bones were scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories:

= 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### = 51+ specimens

Remains that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal, magnetic residues and fragmented bone have been scored for abundance:

+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant

Results

SS No	Context No	Feature/ cut no	Feature type	Approx date of deposit	Flot Contents
1	0049	0047	Pit	Medieval 12th-14th century	Charred cereal #, Charred seeds #, charcoal +++, modern rootlets +, Charred seeds #, un-charred seeds #, Animal bone #, Amphibian bones #
2	0048		Pit	Medieval 12th-14th century	Charred cereal ###,Charred seeds ##, charcoal +++, rootlets ++

Table 5. Results of sample flot assessment

Both flots were relatively small at 50ml each. The preservation is through charring and is generally fair to good although some of the cereal grains are puffed and fragmented with the honeycomb structure characteristic of combustion at high temperatures. Both samples contain charcoal fragments and modern fibrous rootlets.

Wheat caryopses (*Triticum sp.*) were recorded in both samples. In Sample 1 (0049) from pit 0047, the majority were the rounded grains of a bread wheat such as naked wheats (*Triticum aestivum*/*durum*). A small number of the wheat caryopses seem to show signs of germination. Hulled Barley (*Hordeum vulgare L.*) grains were also

present, but in much smaller quantities. No accompanying chaff elements were present that could aid in confirming this identification. The majority of the cereal caryopses were fragmented and abraded making detailed identification impossible.

A small number of charred *Fabaceace* were recovered, tentatively identified as peas (*Pisum sativum L.*), although other pulse species may be present. The condition of the remains makes more detailed identification difficult at this stage.

Charred weed seeds in the form of grasses (*Poaceae sp.*), Corn Chamomile (*Anthemis arvensis L.*) and Cleavers (*Galium aparine L.*) were present in small numbers and may represent agricultural weeds cleaned from the cereal grains during the final stages of processing.

A single ferrous spheroid, a small quantity of hammerscale flakes and small slag fragments were recovered from the residues which suggests that metal working may be taking place in the area.

Sample 2 (0048) from pit 0048 contained numerous bread wheat type grains, again most likely (*T. aestivum*/*durum*) and a small number of barley (*Hordeum sp.*). There were also a number of charred grass type caryopses (*Poaceae sp.*), a single Pea cotyledon, an abraded *Fabaceae* seed which may be a Celtic bean (*Vicia faba L.*) and a charred Knotgrass family (*Polygonum sp.*) seed.

The only uncharred seed was a single Elderberry (*Sambucas nigra L.*) from Sample 1; this could represent utilization of wild plant resources or it may be intrusive within the archaeological deposit.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In general the samples were fair to rich in terms of identifiable material. Charcoal is common in both samples in very small fragments.

The charred cereal grains could represent processing/storage waste or chance loss on a domestic hearth during food preparation. Although no chaff elements were recovered (which would have been indicative of the later stages of cereal processing, when the grains are exposed to heat and pounded in order to remove them from their spikelets) it

is likely that the charred grains represent chance loss during final processing. At this stage the contaminating arable weeds would also have been hand picked from the grain and discarded.

The grains that appear to be germinated could possibly represent small scale brewing but as they are present in such small quantities it is also possible that they are spoiled grains from storage that have been picked out from the bulk of the cereal and discarded.

The small number of pea (*P. sativum L.*) seeds recovered may not be representative of their importance within the diet. As pulses do not need to be processed using heat in the same way as cereals, they are less likely to be exposed to chance preservation through charring and so are often under represented within archaeological deposits. The presence of legumes may indicate that either small scale garden-type production of food crops or larger crop rotation was taking place nearby.

It is likely that the activities indicated by the material recovered from the samples took place on a small scale within the local vicinity and the waste material was deliberately deposited within the archaeological feature.

The weed seeds recovered were all reasonably well preserved and identifiable to an archaeobotanist.

It is not recommended that any further work is carried out on the flot material at this stage as it would offer little extra information of value to the results of the excavation.

The accompanying weed assemblage is likely to provide an insight into to utilisation of local plant resources, agricultural activity and economic evidence from this site. It is recommended that any further samples taken are combined with the flots from the samples taken during this excavation and submitted to an archaeobotanist for full species identification and interpretation.

6.3 Shell

Oyster shell fragments were noted in six pit fills (0037, 0039, 0042, 0046, 0049 and 0050). There are few fragments per context and these are mostly small and abraded shell halves. All of the contexts contain medieval pottery.

7. Discussion of the finds and environmental evidence

The finds assemblage, which is dominated by pottery, CBM and animal bone, has been recorded from a series of pit fills. Although some pottery and CBM is dated to the post-medieval period the majority of datable finds are medieval, and in particular from the mid/late 12th to 14th century. The larger part of the finds recorded at the evaluation stage of the project were also dated to this period and of a similar nature. The site lies within the suspected old medieval town area of Clare so it is not unexpected to find evidence of activity dated to this period on the site. Although a very small assemblage, the faunal remains (particularly from pit 0047) suggests that a proportion of this material is probably related to tanning or hide-working of some kind for which little evidence has previously been found in and around the town. A similar assemblage of animal bone, also probably originating from large pits, was recorded on the property adjacent to this one (Goffin 2007).

8. Overall discussion

The presence of a relatively specific selection of limb bones and skull fragments of cattle, leads to the suggestion that hide working/tanning may have been carried out in the area.

The tanning stage of leather working was a noxious process, typically involving both human and animal faeces, urine and oak bark in the curing process. The hides were often acquired by tanners with hooves and skulls attached; these were removed before the hides were rinsed in running water and soaked in pits filled with lime (a solution of wood ash could also be used) to soften the hair and flesh; this was scraped off and the hides went into tanning pits with the noxious substances to soften them up over time. The pits needed to be watertight and were usually lined with clay if this did not occur

naturally. It was usually carried out on the fringes of town downstream of the settlement core.

The present site is situated on one of the main roads into the town with a plentiful supply of water from the river just to the south, which is closer to the site, than at the major tannery sites such as in York, Northampton (Shaw 1996) and Abingdon (Anthony et al 2006) being less than 100m away. It does, however, lie upstream of the settlement with the consequent danger of pollution although the orientation of the town does suggest the possibility that instead of the River Stour, the Chilton Stream could have been used as the main water source. Tanning could also be carried out as a cottage industry in pre-industrial towns and although the concentration of livestock in towns provided a natural focus small scale tanning could occur in the villages on a more modest scale.

There is some evidence from Castlecliffe, St Andrews (Lewis 1996) and Ock Street Abingdon (Anthony et al 2006), where the linings appear to have been removed, potentially for re-use in new pits, prior to their deliberate backfilling, but this should be seen as the exception rather than the norm. There is documentary evidence of tanners in/near Clare in the post-medieval period (Dymond and Martin 1999) although little archaeological investigation has yet taken place to help define these activities within the town environs. The monitoring of foundations at No. 22 Nethergate Street in 2007 produced a similar bias in the faunal remains (mainly limb and cranial elements, including horn core) although the quantities recovered were very small.

The modest amounts of material recovered from pit 0047, the source of most of the animal bone, may be due to the limited amount of hand excavation as much of this pit was machined away without an archaeologist present and only a small proportion could be hand excavated.

It may be, however, that these pits contained domestic waste (or waste from an unidentifiable cottage industry) from the behind the properties along Nethergate Street. Urban pits can contain wildly varying quantities of identifiable rubbish; taverns and Inns and richer properties often produced larger concentrations of pottery and animal bone whereas a modest household would produce fewer meat bones, from a largely vegetarian diet, and wooden utensils and plates, which reflects their relative wealth and

leave little in the archaeological record. It should be noted, however, that domestic rubbish pits are more commonly found in towns than in the countryside; rural communities, having more space, appear to have preferred surface dung heaps, which were easy to dig out for compost.

9. Conclusions

While the evidence in favour of there being a tannery in the vicinity of the site is tantalisingly small it should remain as a possibility and should be considered if further archaeological works are carried out in the area. It is clearly harder to identify site usage from small monitoring projects and minor excavations than from full scale excavation so several individual elements of work may be required to prove or disprove this potential.

The recovered artefacts form a small assembly with little potential for further analysis at this stage. Future work in the vicinity may recover more artefacts, at which point a synthesis of the individual site reports may become appropriate. A short note in the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History would seem the most appropriate method of wider dissemination of the record of this site, with the archive remaining accessible via SCCAS/HER.

10. Archive deposition

Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

Digital archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\
Archive\Clare\CLA 071 Excavation

Digital photographic archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\
Archaeology\Catalogues\Photos\HSA-HSZ\HSQ 23-66

Finds and environmental archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds
Store Location: **H** / **89** / **1**

11. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by Phil Camps, Simon Cass, Rob Brooks and John Sims. Project management was undertaken by Andrew Tester and post-excavation management was provided by Richenda Goffin. Finds processing and analysis was undertaken by Johnathan Van Jennians and Andy Fawcett respectively. The specialist finds report was produced by Andy Fawcett and additional specialist contributions were provided by Richenda Goffin, Anna West, Justine Biddle and Colin Pendleton.

The report illustrations were created by Beata Wieczorek-Oleksy and Crane Begg and the report was edited by Richenda Goffin.

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Suffolk County Council

The Archaeological Service

9 -10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP33 2AR

Appendix 1. Brief and Specification

Brief and Specification for Excavation

RICHMOND HOUSE, 20 NETHERGATE STREET, CLARE CO10 8NP (SE/11/0099)

Although this document is fundamental to the work of the specialist archaeological contractor the developer should be aware that certain of its requirements are likely to impinge upon the working practices of a general building contractor and may have financial implications

1. The nature of the development and archaeological requirements

1.1 Planning permission has been granted by St Edmundsbury Borough Council (SE/11/0099) for the erection of a swimming pool building, link extension and car port at Richmond House, 20 Nethergate Street, Clare (TL 768 451). **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 site is located on the north side of Nethergate Street at *c.*45–50.00m OD. The underlying glaciofluvial drift geology of the site comprises glaciofluvial drift (deep loam).

1.1 A small trenched archaeological evaluation has been undertaken in June 2011 by SCCAS Contracting Team (SCCAS Report 2011/101,) in advance of the construction of a new building. The investigation defined features dating between the 12th to 19th centuries within the area of the proposed swimming pool.

1.2 The Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (SCCAS/CT) has been requested to provide a specification for the archaeological recording of archaeological deposits that will be affected by development. An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

1.5 Failure to comply with the agreed methodology may lead to enforcement action by the LPA, if planning permission is approved with a condition relating to archaeological investigation.

2. Brief for Archaeological Investigation

2.1 Full archaeological excavation of the swimming pool footprint is to be carried out prior to the development (i.e. to the required formation level).

2.2 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects,* 1991 (*MAP2*). Excavation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential for analysis and publication. Analysis and final report preparation will follow assessment and will be the subject of a further updated project design.

2.3 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 SCCAS/CT (9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR) for approval by the Local Planning Authority. 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.

2.4 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; an important aspect of the WSI will be an assessment of the project in relation to the Regional Research Framework (*E Anglian Archaeology* Occasional Papers 3, 1997, 'Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 1. resource assessment', and 8, 2000, 'Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. research agenda and strategy').

2.7 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 SCCAS/CT before execution.

2.8 The responsibility for identifying any restraints on archaeological field-work (e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c.) rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such restraints or imply that the target area is freely available.

2.9 All arrangements for the excavation 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.

2.10 The developer or his archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT ten working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored. The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based.

3. Specification for the Archaeological Excavation

The excavation methodology is to be agreed in detail before the project commences. Certain minimum criteria will be required:

3.1 Topsoil and subsoil deposits (see 3.4) must be removed to the top of the first archaeological level by an appropriate machine with a back-acting arm fitted with a toothless bucket. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist.

3.2 If the machine stripping is to be undertaken by the main contractor, all machinery must keep off the stripped areas until they have been fully excavated and recorded, in accordance with this specification. Full construction work must not begin until excavation has been completed and formally confirmed in writing to the LPA by SCCAS/CT.

3.3 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence

by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of further excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.

3.4 Provision should be made for hand excavation of any stratified layers (e.g. dark earth) in 2.50m or 1.00m squares, to be agreed on the basis of the complexity/extent of such layers with SCCAS/CT. This should be accompanied by an appropriate finds recovery strategy which must include metal detector survey and on-site sieving to recover smaller artefacts/ecofacts.

3.5 All features which are, or could be interpreted as, structural must be fully excavated. Post-holes and pits must be examined in section and then fully excavated. Fabricated surfaces within the excavation area (e.g. yards and floors) must be fully exposed and cleaned. Any variation from this process can only be made by agreement with SCCAS/CT, and must be confirmed in writing.

3.6 All other features must be sufficiently examined to establish, where possible, their date and function. For guidance:

a) A minimum of 50% of the fills of the general features is be excavated (in some instances 100% may be requested).

b) 10% of the fills of substantial linear features (ditches, etc) are to be excavated (min.). The samples must be representative of the available length of the feature and must take into account any variations in the shape or fill of the feature and any concentrations of artefacts. For linear features, 1.00m wide slots (min.) should be excavated across their width.

3.7 Any variation from this process can only be made by agreement [if necessary on site] with a member of SCCAS/CT, and must be confirmed in writing.

3.8 Collect and prepare environmental bulk samples (for flotation and analysis by an environmental specialist). The fills of all archaeological features should be bulk sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains and assessed by an appropriate specialist. The WSI must provide details of a comprehensive sampling strategy for retrieving and processing biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations and also for absolute dating), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. All samples should be retained until their potential has been assessed. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from Dr Helen Chappell, English Heritage Regional Adviser in 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.

3.9 A finds recovery policy is to be agreed before the project commences. It should be addressed by the WSI. Sieving of occupation levels and building fills will be expected.

3.10 Use of a metal detector will form an essential part of finds recovery. Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.

3.11 All finds will be collected and processed. No discard policy will be considered until the whole body of finds has been evaluated.

3.12 All ceramic, bone and stone artefacts to be cleaned and processed concurrently with the excavation to allow immediate evaluation and input into decision making.

3.13 Metal artefacts must be stored and managed on site in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines* and evaluated for significant dating and cultural implications before despatch to a conservation laboratory within four weeks of excavation.

3.14 Human remains are to be treated at all stages with care and respect, and are to be dealt with in accordance with the law. They must be recorded *in situ* and subsequently lifted, packed and marked to standards compatible with those described in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Technical Paper 13: Excavation and post-excavation treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains*, by McKinley & Roberts. Proposals for the final disposition of remains following study and analysis will be required in the WSI.

3.15 Plans of the archaeological features on the site should normally 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.

3.16 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies/high resolution digital images, and documented in a photographic archive.

3.17 Excavation record keeping is to be consistent with the requirements the County Historic Environment Record and compatible with its archive. Methods must be agreed with SCCAS/CT.

4. General Management

4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences.

4.2 Monitoring of the archaeological work will be undertaken by SCCAS/CT. A decision on the monitoring required will be made by SCCAS/CT on submission of the accepted WSI.

4.3 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors). 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.

4.4 Provision should be included in the WSI for outreach activities, for example (and where appropriate), in the form of open days/guided tours for the general public, local schools, local councillors, local archaeological and historical societies and for local public lectures and/or activities within local schools. Provision should be included for local press releases (newspapers/radio/TV). Where appropriate, information boards should be also provided during the fieldwork stage of investigation. Archaeological Contractors should ascertain whether their clients will seek to impose restrictions on public access to the site and for what reasons and these should be detailed in the WSI.

4.5 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are available to fulfill the Specification.

4.6 A detailed risk assessment and management strategy must be presented for this particular site.

4.7 The WSI must include proposed security measures to protect the site and both excavated and unexcavated finds from vandalism and theft, and to secure deep any holes.

4.8 Provision for the reinstatement of the ground and filling of dangerous holes must be detailed in the WSI. However, trenches should not be backfilled without the approval of SCCAS/CT.

4.9 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.

4.10 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this specification 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 Excavation* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

5. Archive Requirements

5.1 Within four weeks of the end of field-work a written timetable for post-excavation work must be produced, which must be approved by SCCAS/CT. Following this a written statement of progress on post-excavation work whether archive, assessment, analysis or final report writing will be required at three monthly intervals.

5.2 The project manager must consult the County Historic Environment Record Officer (Dr Colin Pendleton) to obtain a Historic Environment Record number for the work. This number will be unique for the site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.

5.3 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principle of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (*MAP2*), particularly Appendix 3. However, the detail of the archive is to be fuller than that implied in *MAP2* Appendix 3.2.1. The archive is to be sufficiently detailed to allow comprehension and further interpretation of the site should the project not proceed to detailed analysis and final report preparation. It must be adequate to perform the function of a final archive for lodgement in the County Store or other museum in Suffolk.

5.4 A complete copy of the site record archive must be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record within 12 months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.

5.5 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Historic Environment Record. All record drawings of excavated evidence are to be presented in drawn up form, with overall site plans. All records must be on an archivally stable and suitable base.

5.6 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with UK Institute Conservators Guidelines.

5.7 The site archive quoted at *MAP2* Appendix 3, must satisfy the standard set by the "Guideline for the preparation of site archives and assessments of all finds other than fired clay vessels" of the Roman Finds Group and the Finds Research Group AD700-1700 (1993).

5.8 Pottery should be recorded and archived to a standard comparable with 6.3 above, i.e. *The Study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for Analysis and Publication,* Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group Occ Paper 1 (1991, rev 1997), the *Guidelines for the archiving of Roman Pottery*, Study Group Roman Pottery (ed M G Darling 1994) and the *Guidelines of the Medieval Pottery Group* (in draft).

5.9 All coins must be identified and listed as a minimum archive requirement.

5.10 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.

5.11 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.

5.12 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.

5.13 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.

5.14 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 proper deposition (http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html).

5.15 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project, 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 journal, must be prepared and 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.

5.65 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 Historic Environment Record. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.

5.17 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/ must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.

5.18 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the County Historic Environment Record, and a copy should be included with the draft assessment report for approval. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

6. Report Requirements

6.1 An assessment report on the fieldwork and archive must be provided consistent with the principle of *MAP2*, particularly Appendix 4. The report must be integrated with the archive.

6.2 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.

6.3 An important element of the report will be a description of the methodology.

6.4 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.

6.5 Provision should be made to assess the potential of scientific dating techniques for establishing the date range of significant artefact or ecofact assemblages, features or structures.

6.6 The results should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the County Historic Environment Record, and to the results of the evaluation.

6.7 The report will give an opinion as to the potential and necessity for further analysis of the excavation data beyond the archive stage, and the suggested requirement for publication; it will refer to the Regional Research Framework. Further analysis will not be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established. Analysis and publication can be neither developed in detail nor costed in detail until this brief and specification is satisfied. However, the developer should be aware that there is a responsibility to provide a publication of the results of the programme of work.

6.8 A draft hard copy of the assessment report (clearly marked Draft) must be presented to SCCAS/CT for comment within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and SCCAS/CT.

6.9 The involvement of SCCAS/CT should be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

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 July 2011

This brief and specification remains valid for 12 months from the above date. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the authority should be notified and a revised brief and specification may be issued.

If the work defined by this brief forms a part of a programme of archaeological work required by a Planning Condition, the results must be considered by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council, who have the responsibility for advising the appropriate Planning Authority.

Appendix 2. Context list

Context No	Feature No	Feature Type	Description/Interpretation	Finds	Overall Date	Env. Sample
0019	0019	Pit Cut	Northern end of a N-S orientated oblong pit emerging from the north-eastern corner of the present coach house building. Flat bottomed with slightly concave/near vertical sides.	No		No
			Pit			
0020	0019	Pit Fill	Mid grey/brown silty clay with moderate chalk and charcoal flecks.	Yes	L12th-14th C	No
			Fill of Pit 0019.			
0021	0021	Pit Cut	Ovoid pit with steep sloped slightly irregular sides to a flattish base (orientated approx. N-S).	No		No
			Small oblong pit.			
0022	0021	Pit Fill	Mid greyish brown firm/plastic silty clay with occasional small/medium stone inclusions	Yes	L12th-14th C	No
			Fill of small pit 0021.			
0023	0023	Pit Cut	Almost-vertical sided rectangular pit (rounded corners) with a flat/slightly undulating base.	No		No
			Pit			
0024	0023	Pit Fill	Upper fill of pit 0023. Dark brown loose silty clay sand with very intermittent stone inclusions.	No		No
			Upper fill of pit 0023.			
0025	0023	Pit Fill	Heavily mixed mid brown hard compacted clayey silty sand with very frequent stone inclusions and large clumps of clays (appears to be redeposited natural clay with chalk flecking)	Yes	15th-16th C (s	No
			Lower fill of pit 0023.			
0026	0026	Pit Cut	Small circular pit at the southern edge of the site with a shallow dished profile to a shallow concave/flattish base.	No		No
			Shallow pit.			
0027	0026	Pit Fill	Dark brown friable/loose silty clay with frequent small-medium flints and gravels.	Yes	L18th-20th C	No
			Fill of pit 0026.			
0028	0028	Pit Cut	Pit visible in foundation of link between rear of Richmond House extension and existing coach house.	No		No
			Large pit - probably circular with near vertical sides to a flat base.			
0029	0028	Pit Fill		No		No

Context No	Feature No	Feature Type	Description/Interpretation	Finds	Overall Date	Env. Sample
0030	0030	Pit Cut	Western end of pit with concave base and steep sloped sides. No distinguishable relationship with pit 0023 to south.	No		No
			Oblong pit at south-western corner of site.			
0031	0030	Pit Fill	Dark brown fairly loosely compacted silty clayey sand with very scarce stone inclusions.	Yes	L12th-14th C	No
			Fill of pit 0030			
0032	0032	Pit Cut	Oblong pit - eastern end. Steep sloping concave sides to a concave base. No discernable relationship with pit 0034 to the south. Same feature as 0030	No		No
			Oblongata pit. Opposite end from 0030.			
0033	0032	Pit Fill	Dark brown fairly loosely compacted silty clayey sand with occasional stones throughout.	Yes	16th-18th C	No
			Fill of pit 0032.			
0034	0034	Pit Cut	Vertical sided pit - same feature as 0023. No discernable relationship with 0032 to north. Feature not bottomed - excavated to confirm/prove any possible relationship with 0032.	No		No
			Steep-sided pit.			
0035	0034	Pit Fill	Dark brown hard compacted silty clayey sand with occasional stones throughout. Not fully excavated to base of feature.	Yes	L12th-14th C	No
0036	0036	Pit Cut	Irregular ovoid/rectangular pit with irregular sloped/near vertical sides, not bottomed at this time. Excavation of feature stopped at 0.9m below surface of natural (1.6m below topsoil surface).	No		No
			Large pit. Not fully excavated due to lack of space in feature, as well as depth.			
0037	0036	Pit Fill	Dark/mid greyish brown silty clay	Yes	L12th-14th C	No
			Fill of pit 0036			
0038	0038	Pit Cut	Irregular ovoid shallow dished pit, orientated approximately north-south	No		No
			Shallow pit			
0039	0038	Pit Fill	Mid greyish brown firm silty clay with occasional/moderate small/medium sub-rounded/sub-angular flints and stones. The base of the feature is slightly unclear due to root action from modern vegetation.	Yes	L12th-14th C	No
			Fill of shallow pit 0038.			
0040	0040	Pit Cut	Round oval-shaped pit with steep/near vertical sides - not bottomed.	No		No
			Large pit entering retaining wall trench from the pool area - other half will be encountered later in the strip. Feature was not fully excavated at this time.			

Context No	Feature No	Feature Type	Description/Interpretation	Finds	Overall Date	Env. Sample
0041	0040	Pit Fill	Lens of hard chalk visible in section near top of pit 0041. Also contained small stones (5-10mm diameter).	No		No
			Lens at top of pit 0040.			
0042	0040	Pit Fill	Dark brown fairly loosely compacted clayey silty sand with occasional stones (5-20mm diameter)	Yes	L12th-M13th	No
			Main fill of pit 0040.			
0043	0043	Pit Cut	Large rectangular pit with rounded corners, steep near vertical sides to a slightly concave base.	No		No
			large rectangular pit.			
0044	0043	Pit Fill	Mid brown silty sandy clay with occasional chalk flecks and small stones.	Yes	L12th-14th C	No
			Fill of pit 0043.			
0045	0045	Pit Cut	Cut only partially visible within the footing trenches, but had curving edges (circular?). SW edge = 80° fairly straight slope, with rapidly curving break of slope to the base. SE edge = 85° straight sloping side, with sudden break of slope to a 45° slope, which gradually curves to the base. Concave base.	No		No
			Pit cut. Possibly post-medieval, as contained some PMed tile, but also contained medieval pottery. Cuts subsoil and natural geology. Uncertain of relationship with topsoil.			
0046	0045	Pit Fill	Dark brownish-grey sandy-clayey-silt. Occasional chalk and charcoal flecks, and small stones. Also occasional yellow clay lumps. Firm compaction. Clear horizon clarity.	Yes	L12th-14th C	No
			Post-medieval or medieval pit fill.			
0047	0047	Pit Cut	Large cut which was not fully visible within the footing trenches, but had curving sides (circular?). The profile was only partially excavated due to the depth of the trenching. SE side = 85° slightly concave slope, with break of slope to base not seen. NW side = 70° slightly concave slope, that then curves round to being almost flat, before abruptly becoming an 80° slightly concave slope, which has a curving break of slope to the base. The base appears to be largely flat/slightly undulating.	No		No
			Large medieval pit. Possibly re-cut, hence stepped NW edge, though this could also have been dug for access to the feature. A further possible re-cut is recorded as 0055.			
0048	0047	Pit Fill	Mottled dark grey and orange sandy-silt, becoming darker/more grey towards trench edge. Firm compaction and clear horizon clarity. Frequent small stones (gravel), especially within the orangey material. Medium (0.1 x 0.15m) rounded stones at base of fill in places. Some finds within this fill were mixed with and kept under 0049.	Yes	M12th-M13th	Yes
			Medieval pit fill.			

Context No	Feature No	Feature Type	Description/Interpretation	Finds	Overall Date	Env. Sample
0049	0047	Pit Fill	Dark grey sandy-silt of firm compaction. Contains frequent small stones, and occasional charcoal flecks. Diffuse to clear horizon clarity.	Yes	M13th-M14th	Yes
			Medieval pit fill.			
0049	0047	Pit Fill	Dark grey sandy-silt of firm compaction. Contains frequent small stones, and occasional charcoal flecks. Diffuse to clear horizon clarity.	Yes		Yes
			Medieval pit fill.			
0050	0047	Pit Fill	Orange sandy-silt and gravel-type stones, mottled in places with grey sandy-silt. Friable compaction. Diffuse/horizon clarity.	Yes	L12th-14th C	No
			Redeposited mixed natural.			
0051	0047	Pit Fill	Very dark grey/black sandy-silt. Frequent small stones. Clear horizon clarity. Only recorded patchily across the base of the cut.	Yes	L12th-14th C	No
			Medieval pit fill.			
0052	0047	Pit Fill	Mottled orange and dark grey sandy-silt. Common small to medium rounded stones and occasional oyster shells. Diffuse horizon clarity.	No		No
			Possible pit fill. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological excavation.			
0053	0055	Pit Fill	Brownish-orange clayey-sandy-silt, with occasional chalk flecks and common small stones. Clear horizon clarity.	No		No
			Possible pit fill. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological excavation.			
0054	0054	Pit Cut	Possible cut only seen in section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological visit. 40-45° concave sides, with gradually curving break of slope to the concave base.	No		No
			Possible ditch or pit cut. However, it appeared to be filled with the overlying topsoil, so is probably late post-medieval, or modern.			
0055	0055	Pit Cut	Possible cut only seen in section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological visit. 35-45° straight sides, with gradually curving break of slope to the slightly concave base.	No		No
			Possible pit cut. May be a re-cut of 0047.			
0056	0057	Pit Fill	Mid brownish grey firm silty sandy clay with occasional chalk flecks and small-medium sub angular/rounded flints.	Yes	L12th-14th C	No
			Fill of Pit 0056 - also seen in section of footings to west.			
0057	0057	Pit Cut	Circular pit feature, half-exposed within excavation area (extends out of LOE to the west). Probably sub circular in plan with vertical sides - not fully excavate so base not seen. Probable medieval rubbish pit (pottery and CBM found).	No		No
			Same feature as 0045 seen in footing trench to west.			

Appendix 3. Pottery catalogue

Ctxt	Fabric	Form	No	Wgt/g	State	Comments	Fabric date range	Context date
0046	MCW	BODY	7	25	R	Several different fabrics	L12th-14th c	L12th-14th C
0048	HFW	JUG	1	10	A	R.eve 0.07 Inturned beaded rim, prob early rounded jug. Copper glaze	1150-1250	1150-1250
0048	MCW	CP/JAR	1	16		R.eve 0.05. Essex type jar, flanged neck	c 1150-1250	
0048	MCW	BODY	2	23	A		L12th-14th C	
0049	MCW	BODY	13	136		Includes 2 base sherds	L12th-14th C	
0049	MCW	CP/JAR	3	56		R.eve 0.12, 1 rim, 2 body. See Cotter fig 97 no 18.	c 1250-1350	1250-1350
0049	MCW	CP/JAR	1	18		R.eve 0.09. Neckless rim	c 1250-1350	
0049	MCW	CP/JAR	1	7	S	R.eve 0.06. Flanged rim, prob earlier fab	L12th-14th C	
0049	MCW	CP/JAR	1	11		R.eve 0.07. Squared rim	L12th-14th C	
0050	MCW	BODY	1	8	A		L12th-14th C	L12th-14th C
0051	MCW	BODY	1	29	S	Internal sooting	L12th-14th C	L12th-14th C
0056	MCW	BODY	6	23			L12th-14th C	L12th-14th C

Ctxt	Fabric	Form	No	Wgt/g	State	Comments	Fabric date range	Context date
0056	EMW	BODY	1	5		Shell dusted, sandy, equivalent to Cotter fabric 13S,	11th-12th C	
0056	MCW	BODY	1	5	A		L12th-14th C	
0020	MCW	BODY	1	2	S	Sooted on the outside	L12th-14th C	L12th-14th C
0022	MCW	BODY	1	5	S	Brown fabric	L12th-14th C	L12th-14th C
0025	MCW	BODY	5	27	A-S		L12th-14th C	15th-16th C
0025	HFW	BODY	2	7	S	Copper glaze, both join	M12th-M13th C	
0025	LMTE	BODY	1	15	S		15th-16th C	
0027	REFW	BODY	2	9	A	Join	L18th-20th C	L18th-20th C
0031	UPG	BODY	2	3	S		L12th-14th C	L12th-14th C
0033	GRE	BODY	1	20	A		16th-18th C	16th-18th C
0033	IGBW	BODY	1	12	S		16th-18th C	
0035	MCW	BODY	3	17	S		L12th-14th C	L12th-14th C
0037	MCW	BODY	3	18	S		L12th-14th C	L12th-14th C
0039	MCW	CP/JAR	1	19	S	R.eve 0.07, Essex type jar see Cotter B2a flat topped with internal flange	L12th-14th C	
0039	MCW	BODY	3	17	A-S		L12th-14th C	L12th-14th C

Ctxt	Fabric	Form	No	Wgt/g	State	Comments	Fabric date range	Context date
0039	GRIM	BODY	1	6	S		L12th-14th C	
0042	HFW	BODY	1	3	S	Copper glaze	M12th-M13th C	L12th-M13th C
0042	MCW	BODY	9	114	S	Two cooking pot base fragments present	L12th-14th C	
0044	MCW	BODY	4	14	S		L12th-14th C	L12th-14thC
0044	MCW	CP/JAR	1	31	S	Like Cotter type B2 with thickend flat top	L12th-14th C	

Appendix 4. Ceramic building material catalogue

Ctxt	Fabric	Form	No	Wgt/g	Height	Width	Abr	Mortar	Notes	Date
0020	Msf	RT	1	28	13		Abr		Oxidised, flint is rare and large	Med/PMed
0020	Ms	RT	3	324	15		Sli		Oxidised, occasional sparse flint, one with peg hole	LMed-PMed
0020	Ms	E/LB	2	981	50	115	Abr		Oxidised, occasional flint, chalk but these are rare plus voids	LMed-PMed
0022	Ms	RT	1	47	14		Abr	Traces	Oxidised	LMed-PMed
0025	Ms	FRAG	4	26			Shatt		Oxidised	LMed-PMed
0025	Msc	RT	1	52	15		Abr		Oxidised with common calcite	Med-PMed
0025	Ms	RT	3	175	14		Abr/sli		Oxidised, with sparse red iron ore plus others	LMed-PMed
0025	Ms	RT	1	26	13		Sli		Oxidised/reduced	LMed-PMed
0025	Ms?fe	E/LB	1	251	45		Sli		Oxidised, almost vitrified	Med-PMed
0031	Ms	RT	1	59	15		Abr		Oxidised	LMed-PMed
0033	Msfe	RT	1	69	17		Abr		Oxidised	PMed
0035	Ms	FRAG	2	329			Abr		Oxidised, no one mineral dominates, brick frags with voids	Med-PMed
0035	Msfe	RT	2	111	18		Sli		Oxidised with black iron ore	?LMed-PMed

Ctxt	Fabric	Form	No	Wgt/g	Height	Width	Abr	Mortar	Notes	Date
0037	Ms	RT	1	43	11		Sli	Traces	Oxidised with grey core, high fired	Med
0037	Ms	RT	2	171	15		Sli		Oxidised	LMed-PMed
0042	Ms	RT	1	60	14		Sli		Oxidised with blue/grey core, high fired with sparse flint/calcite	Med
0044	Ms	RT	3	52			Shatt		Oxidised with grey core	Med
0044	Msc	RT	1	48	13		Sli		Oxidised with grey core contains sparse red iron ore	Med
0044	Cs	RT	1	21	13		Sli		Oxidised	Med?+
0044	Ms	RT	1	36	13		Sli		Oxidised with slight grey core	Med-PMed
0044	Msfe	RT	2	187	11		Sli		Oxidised	LMed-PMed
0046	Ms	FRAG	1	1			Shatt		Oxidised	LMed-PMed
0046	Ms	RT	2	81	10-21		Abr-sli		Oxidised	LMed-PMed
0056	Msc	RT	1	10			Shatt		Oxidised with grey core	Med
0056	Cs	RT	1	28	14		Sli		Oxidised	Med?+
0056	Ms	RT	5	234	12		Sli		Oxidised some with sparse flint, one an attempt at spin whorl?	LMed-PMed

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Contact:

Rhodri Gardner

Tel: 01473 265879 Fax: 01473 216864

rhodri.gardner@suffolk.gov.uk

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