

Land south of Friends Field
Bures St. Mary, Suffolk
BSM 061

Archaeological Excavation Report

SCCAS Report No. 2012/143

Client: CgMs

Author: M. Sommers

September 2012

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Report Date: September 2012

HER Information

Site Code: BSM 061
Site Name: Land south of Friends Field, Bures St Mary
Report Number 2012/143
Planning Application No: B/11/00825/FUL
Date of Fieldwork: 6th to 15th August 2012
Grid Reference: TL 9092 3409
Oasis Reference: suffolkc1-134918
Curatorial Officer: Sarah Poppy
Project Officer: M. Sommers
Client/Funding Body: CgMs Consulting
Client Reference: n/a

Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:
<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>

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Summary

An archaeological excavation was carried out in advance of a residential development on a plot of land to the south of Friends Field, Bures St Mary. The excavation followed on from a previous evaluation which had identified a number of undated ditches and a single pit of possible prehistoric date. It comprised an open area around the pit and a series of trenches targeting the predicted locations of ditch junctions to confirm their relationships and to obtain dating evidence. Within the open area a further five pits were recorded. All the pits finally recorded form a linear group that appear to be associated although their purpose could not be positively determined. Three of these pits contained small fragments of medieval pottery although a significant amount of medieval pottery was recovered from a subsoil layer, interpreted as a hillwash, suggesting these may be residual finds in later features. Two medieval silver hammered coins were also recovered from the subsoil layer.

The targeted ditch junctions confirmed that the majority of the ditches were probably related. A small amount of medieval pottery was recovered from the fills and they appeared to be partially sealed by the hillwash layer indicating a probable medieval date for these features. A ditch on the south-east side of the development area exhibited a later re-cut. This ditch is coincidental to the existing edge of the development area indicating that medieval pattern of plot boundaries is partly preserved in the modern layout of the village. Three sherds of Roman pottery were also recovered from the ditch fills. These are residual finds that indicate Roman activity in the vicinity of the site. (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service for CgMs Consulting).

1. Introduction

The construction of a residential development has been proposed for a plot of land to the south of Friends Field, Bures St Mary, Suffolk. Planning consent was granted (B/11/00825/FUL) but with an attached condition stipulating that an agreed programme of archaeological work is put in place prior to the commencement of the development.

The first stage of the archaeological programme of work was the undertaking of a trenched evaluation of the entire development site. The evaluation identified a number of undated ditches and a single pit of possible Iron Age date. These results highlighted the potential for further significant archaeological evidence to be present within the development area and consequently a further stage of work was specified. This phase of work was to comprise a small open-area excavation around the site of the recorded pit and the excavation of a series of trenches targeting the predicted sites of the ditch junctions to identify their relationships and to obtain dating evidence, as detailed in a Written Scheme of Investigation which was approved by Sarah Poppy of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team (Appendix 1).

This report deals with the results of this second phase of archaeological work, which was undertaken during August 2012. The site is identified in the County Historic Environment Record (HER) under the reference BSM 061.

The archaeological excavation was undertaken by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service's Field Team who were commissioned and funded by the archaeological consultants, CgMs Consulting, on behalf of their client.

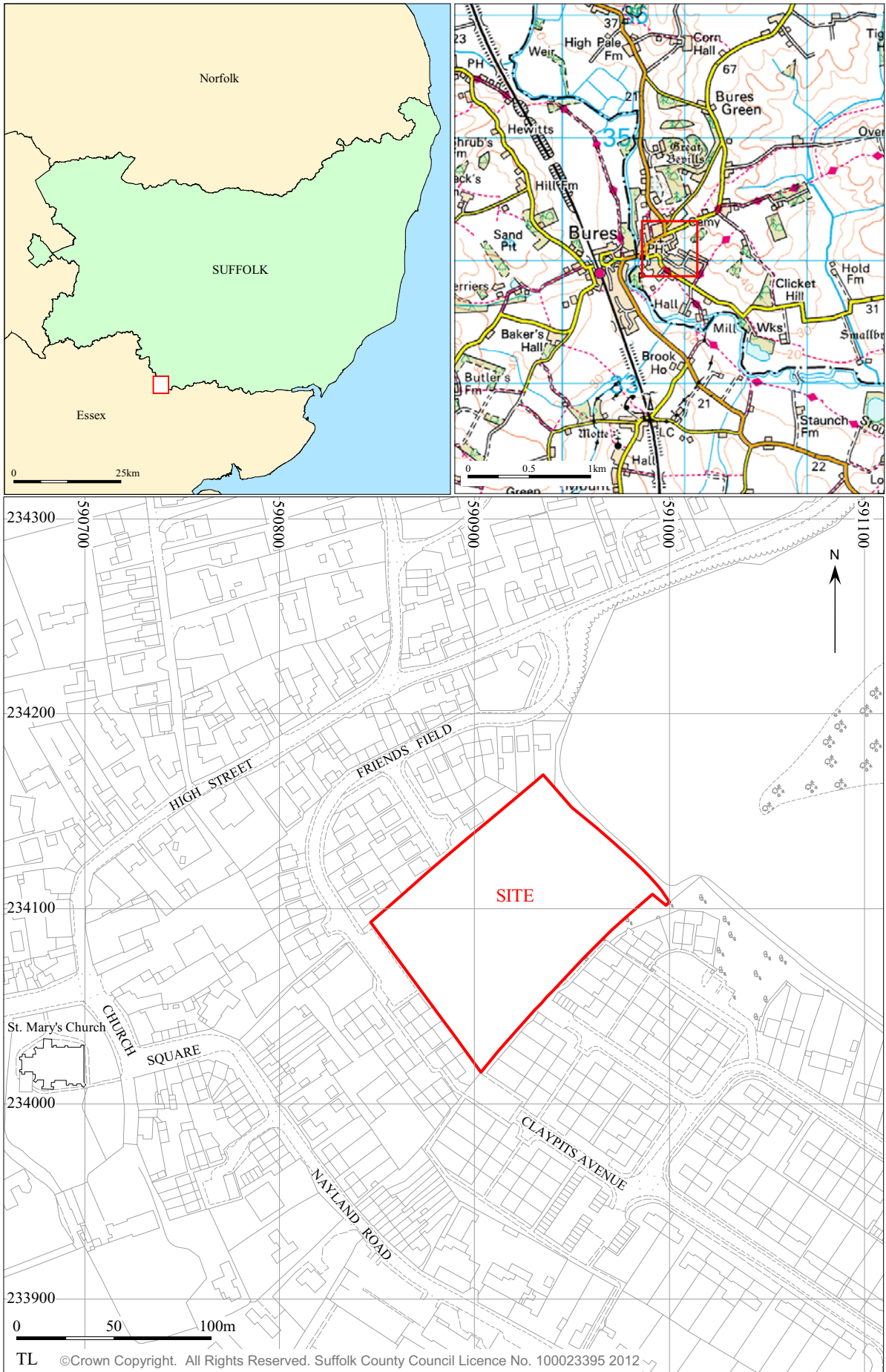


Figure 1 Location map

2. The Excavation

2.1 Site location

The development area lies to the south and east of Friends Field, a residential *cul-de-sac* in the Suffolk parish of Bures St Mary (fig. 1). The National Grid Reference for the approximate centre of the development area is TL 9092 3409. The site is situated on the edge of the village, approximately 160m to the north-east of the parish church. The village itself straddles the River Stour which also forms the County border between Suffolk and Essex (the parish of Bures St Mary is wholly in Suffolk whilst Bures Hamlet comprises the segment of the village that lies in Essex).

The total development area measures approximately 10,750m² and is bounded by domestic properties on three sides and an open field to the north-east. It is accessed from Friends Field via a gateway in the south-west boundary.

2.2 Geology and topography

The site lies at the base of a south-west facing slope of the Stour Valley. The River Stour itself lies approximately 250m to the south-west of the development area.

The bottom of the site lies at a height of c. 23m OD rising to 29m adjacent the north-east boundary. The land continues up to a hill top at 60m OD some 500m to the north-east. Chalk underlies the whole area although the valleys are filled with gravel, sand and silt deposits left by glacial outwash. Occasional clay deposits, laid down in meltwater lakes, are also present.

2.3 Archaeological and historical background

No archaeological sites or findspots are recorded on the County Historic Environment Record (HER) within the development area itself although it is on the edge of the historic settlement core of Bures St. Mary (HER ref. BSM 054). The topographical location is also deemed to be to be favourable for early occupation, being the edge of the higher ground adjacent to the river floodplain.

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken as the first stage of archaeological work associated with this development (Sommers, 2012). It comprised a series machine dug trenches. Within one trench a small pit, containing a sherd of Early to Middle Iron Age pottery, was recorded. A series of undated ditches, which appeared to form a rectilinear pattern of fields, was also identified. A large backfilled pit or quarry, probably for clay extraction, was noted in the northern corner of the development area. Artefacts noted within the fill indicated it was finally backfilled in the late 20th century. Figure 2 comprises a summary of the results of the evaluation.

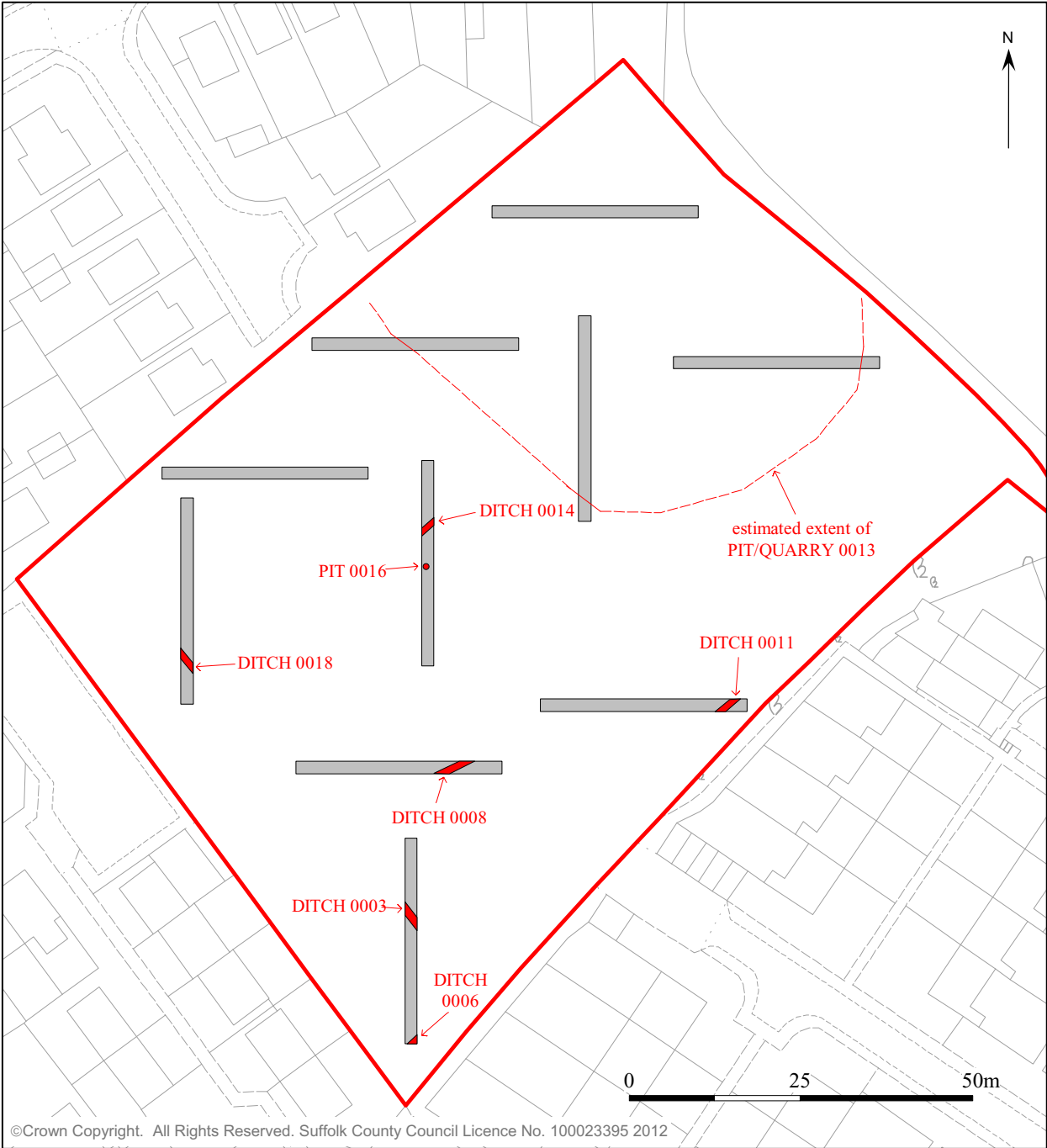


Figure 2 Summary of the evaluation results
(excavated trenches in grey, archaeological features in red)

3. Methodology

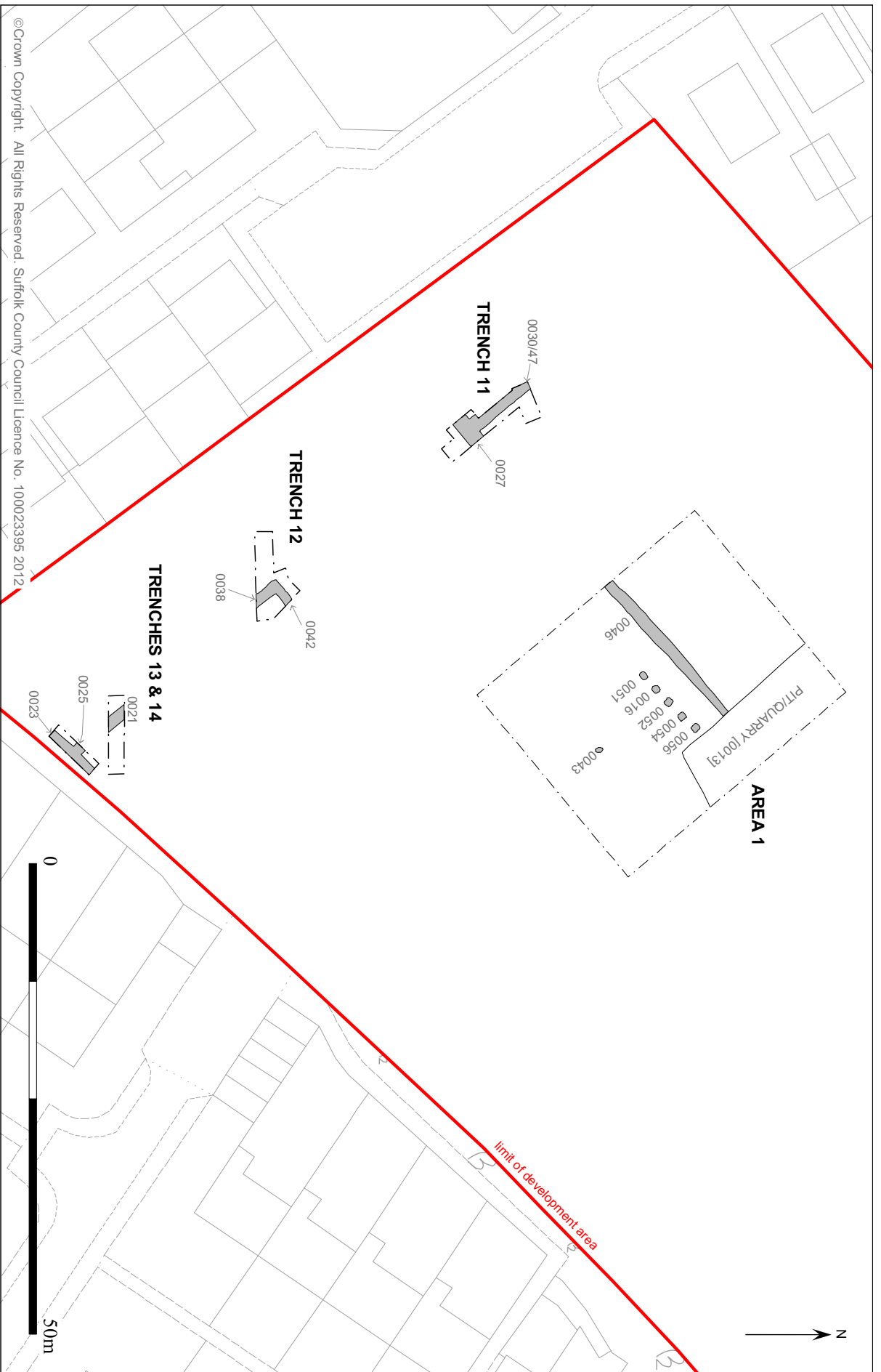
The first stage of the excavation was the mechanical stripping of the topsoil and an underlying masking deposit, interpreted as a hillwash, to expose the cleanly cut surface of the natural subsoil and any archaeological features that may be present. This was achieved using a tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless bucket. This was undertaken over an area measuring 25m by 30m (Area 1), centred on the pit exposed during the evaluation (context 0016), and in three separate trenches (Trench 11 to Trench 13), targeted at the predicted locations of the junctions of the ditches recorded in the evaluation. The locations of the open area and the trenches were laid out using GPS equipment although the trench locations and shapes varied as a small amount of 'chasing' was required to acquire the ditches junctions.

The topsoil was initially removed and the surface of the hillwash deposit was then searched using a metal detector prior to its removal down to the level of the natural subsoil. Metal detector searches were also undertaken on the fills of the exposed archaeological features.

The freshly cut surface of the natural subsoil was left clean and smooth which allowed for the easy identification of the archaeological features. These were then sampled through the hand excavation of sections into their fills to reveal the profile and depth of the feature cut, to obtain dating evidence in the form of artefacts, and to investigate the makeup of the fills.

Context numbers were allocated to all feature cuts and their fills continuing in sequence from those allocated during the trenched evaluation (see Appendix 2 for the complete list). All profiles and sections were recorded at scales of 1:20 or 1:10 on plastic drafting film and a photographic record was made using a digital camera. A surface plan of the site showing all features and section lines, each tagged with an identifying context number, was drawn. These drawings have been digitised and the data used to create the plans and sections presented in this report.

Bulk soil samples were taken for further analysis, the results of which are presented in Section 6. The environmental evidence.



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Figure 3 Excavation results summary

4. Results

4.1 Introduction

A single open area was opened around the pit and four smaller, trench based areas were opened in the vicinity of the ditch junctions. This revealed a number of features as well as the predicted ditch junctions, although one junction was not located at the first attempt leading to the opening of a fourth trench (Trench 14). Figure 3 consists of a summary of the excavation results showing the open area, the trench locations, and all recorded features marked with their cut number. See Appendix 2 for the list of context numbers used.

4.2 Area 1

The metal detecting of the surface of the hillwash layer (context number 0026) revealed a total of five metal small finds consisting of three hammered silver coins and a fob seal matrix, all of which have been dated to the medieval period, and an undated copper alloy metalworking debris (see sections 5.6 'The small finds'). A total of eight sherds of medieval pottery were also recovered from this layer.

Within this area a small number of archaeological features were exposed. They consisted of six small sub-square features and a single linear feature which was interpreted as a ditch. All features were cut through the lower levels of the overlying hillwash. Five of the sub-square features were roughly aligned with roughly even spacing suggesting they were post holes forming one side of a structure. But no corresponding post holes were identified and as there was no positive evidence for these features having held a post they have been interpreted as pits.

See figure 4 for a plan of the features within Area 1 and figure 8 for the recorded sections.

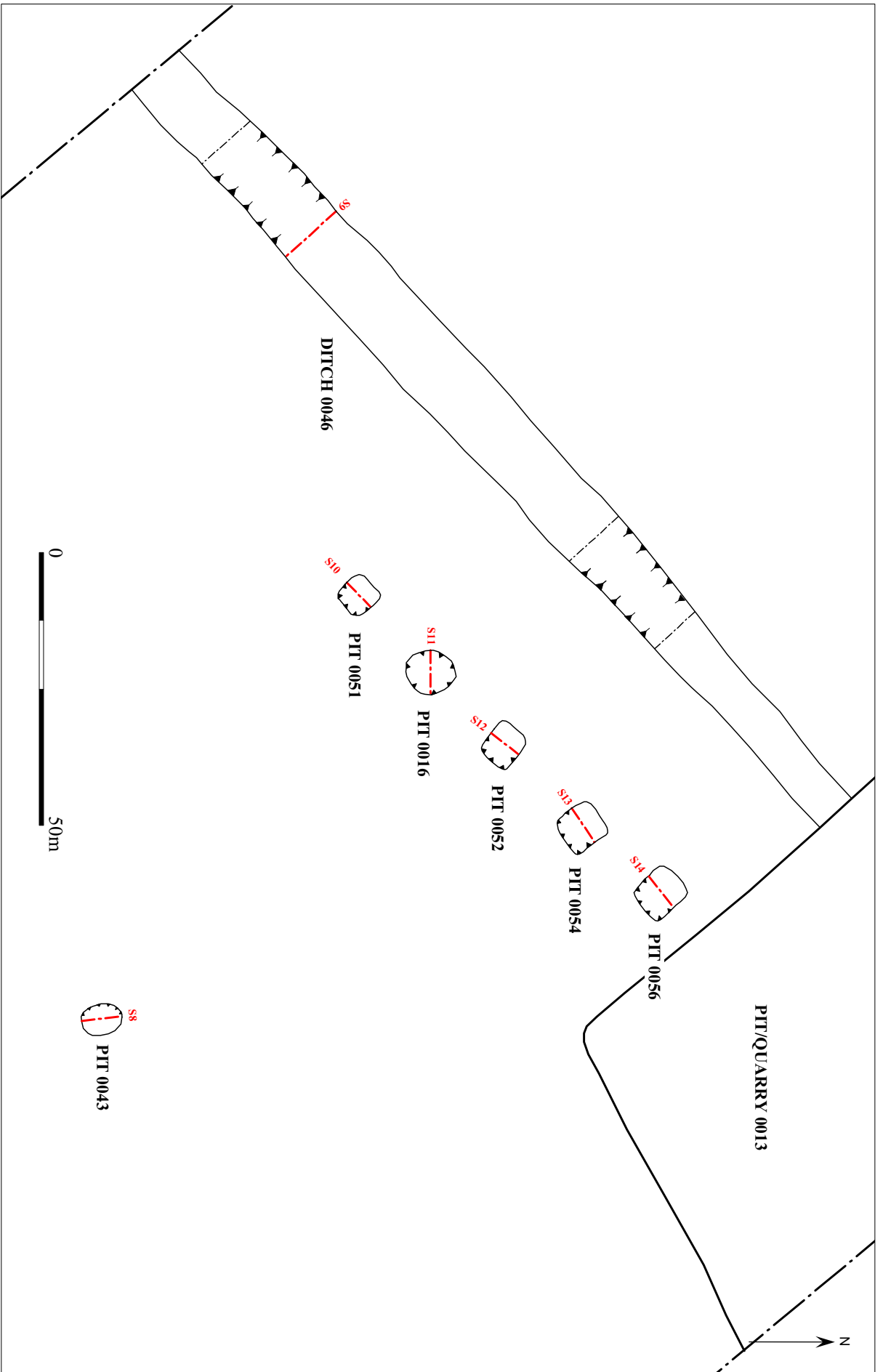


Figure 4 Features recorded within Area 1

The recorded features are as follows:

Ditch 0046: A linear feature aligned south-west to north-east. Recorded as Ditch 0014 during the evaluation. It measured c. 1m in width at the south-west boundary of Area 1 gradually reducing to 0.7m towards the north-east. Very shallow, at only 0.1m deep. The fill (0045) consisted of a greyish yellow stony, sandy silt. Two segments of the ditch, each over 2m in length were excavated but only a single, small sherd of late medieval pottery was recovered. Cut by the modern pit/quarry (0013) to the north-east. Aligned with Ditch 0027 in Trench 11 to the south-west.

Pit/Quarry 0013: A large, straight sided cut was recorded in the northern corner of Area 1. The upper fill consisted of layers of topsoil and stiff yellow/orange clay. It was interpreted as a segment of the large pit/quarry noted during the evaluation. Not excavated.

Pit 0016: Originally recorded in the earlier evaluation. A pit, roughly circular shaped in plan and measuring 0.8m in diameter with a depth of 0.23m. The fill (0017) consisted of a relatively soft and friable mid brown sandy silt from which a single sherd of what is probably Iron Age pottery was recovered. It was initially half-sectioned and then recorded prior to the removal of the remaining half in an attempt to recover further finds.

Pit 0043: A pit, oval in plan, with a bowl shaped profile. It measured 0.52m by 0.68m and had a depth of 0.16m. The fill (0044) consisted of a brown silty sand with very occasional charcoal flecks. Half-sectioned but no artefacts recovered.

Pit 0051: Sub-square shape in plan, measuring 0.62m by 0.62m, with a depth of 0.15m. The fill (0050) consisted of a brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and infrequent charcoal flecks. A single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered. Half-sectioned.

- Pit 0052: The cut was a sub-rectangular shape in plan, measuring 0.64m by 0.74m and 0.21m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. The fill (0053) consisted of a brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and infrequent charcoal flecks. A small lens of stiff clay was present close to the base.
- Pit 0054: The cut was a sub-rectangular shape in plan, measuring 0.74m by 0.78m and 0.20m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. The fill (0055) consisted of a brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and infrequent charcoal flecks. The feature was half-sectioned but no artefacts were recovered.
- Pit 0056: The cut was a sub-rectangular shape in plan, measuring 0.74m by 0.78m and 0.20m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. The fill (0057) consisted of a brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and infrequent charcoal flecks. The feature was half-sectioned which resulted in the recovery of a single, small sherd of medieval pottery.

4.3 Trench 11

An irregular shaped trench excavated to investigate the relationship between Ditches 0014 and 0018 recorded during the evaluation (fig. 5). Both ditches were identified in this trench; both were allocated new context numbers. Ditch 0027 (0014), was found to meet Ditch 0047 (0018) at right angles. Ditch 0027 continued to the south-west and so formed a 'T' junction. Ditch 0047 did not continue to the south-east. The relationship, as revealed in section, indicated that the two ditches were probably contemporary.

Ditch 0047 was found to be 1.2m in width and cut to a depth of 0.38m. The fill consisted of basal deposit of light brown silty sand (0049) overlain by a slightly darker deposit of brown sandy silt with very occasional charcoal flecks (0048). Ditch 0027 measured 1.55m in width and was cut to a depth of 0.4m. The lower fill consisted of a light brown stony, sandy silt (0029) overlain by a similar but slightly darker deposit with less stone (0028). Both these fills are the same as those present in Ditch 0047.

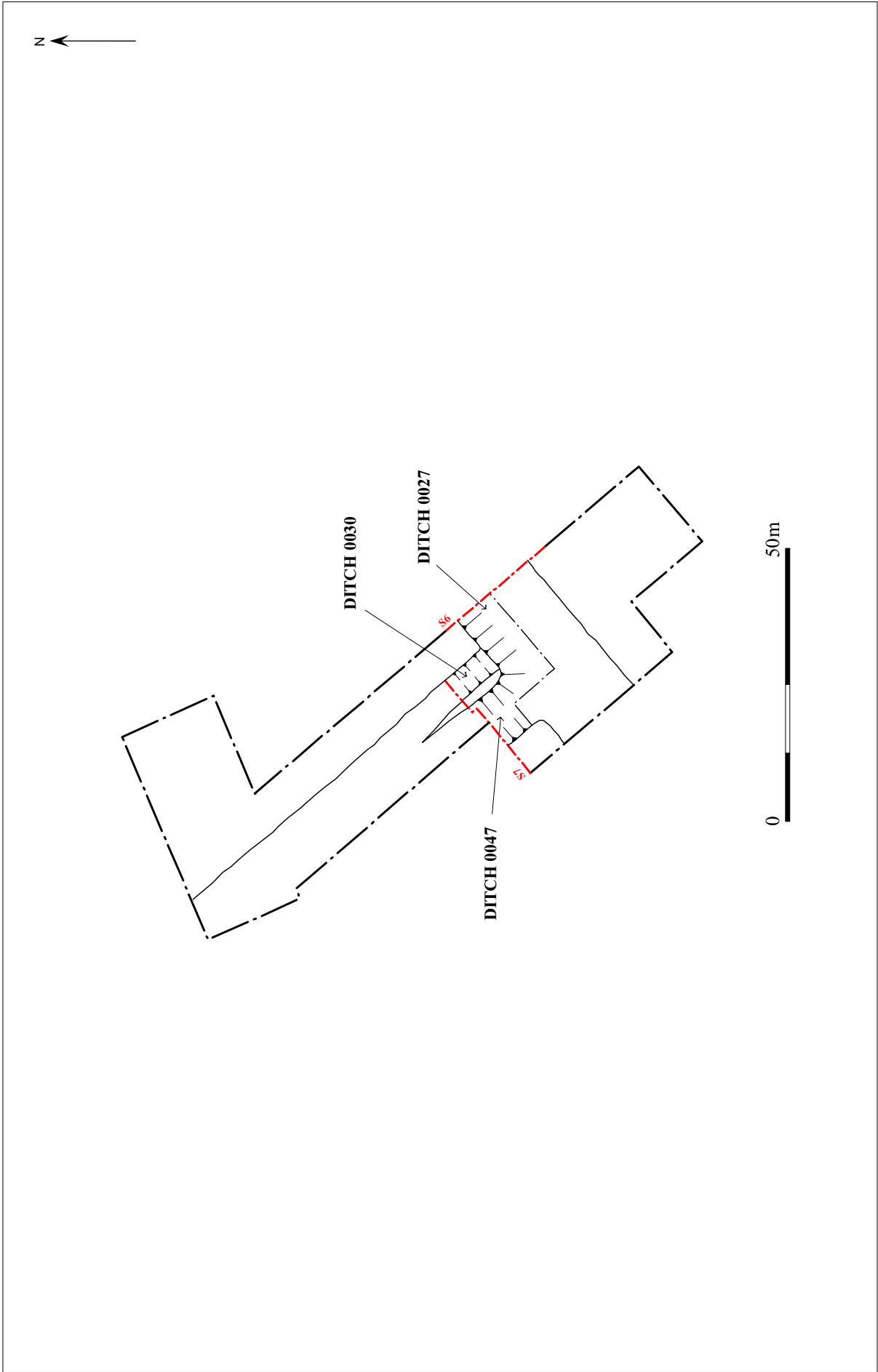


Figure 5 Plan of Trench 11

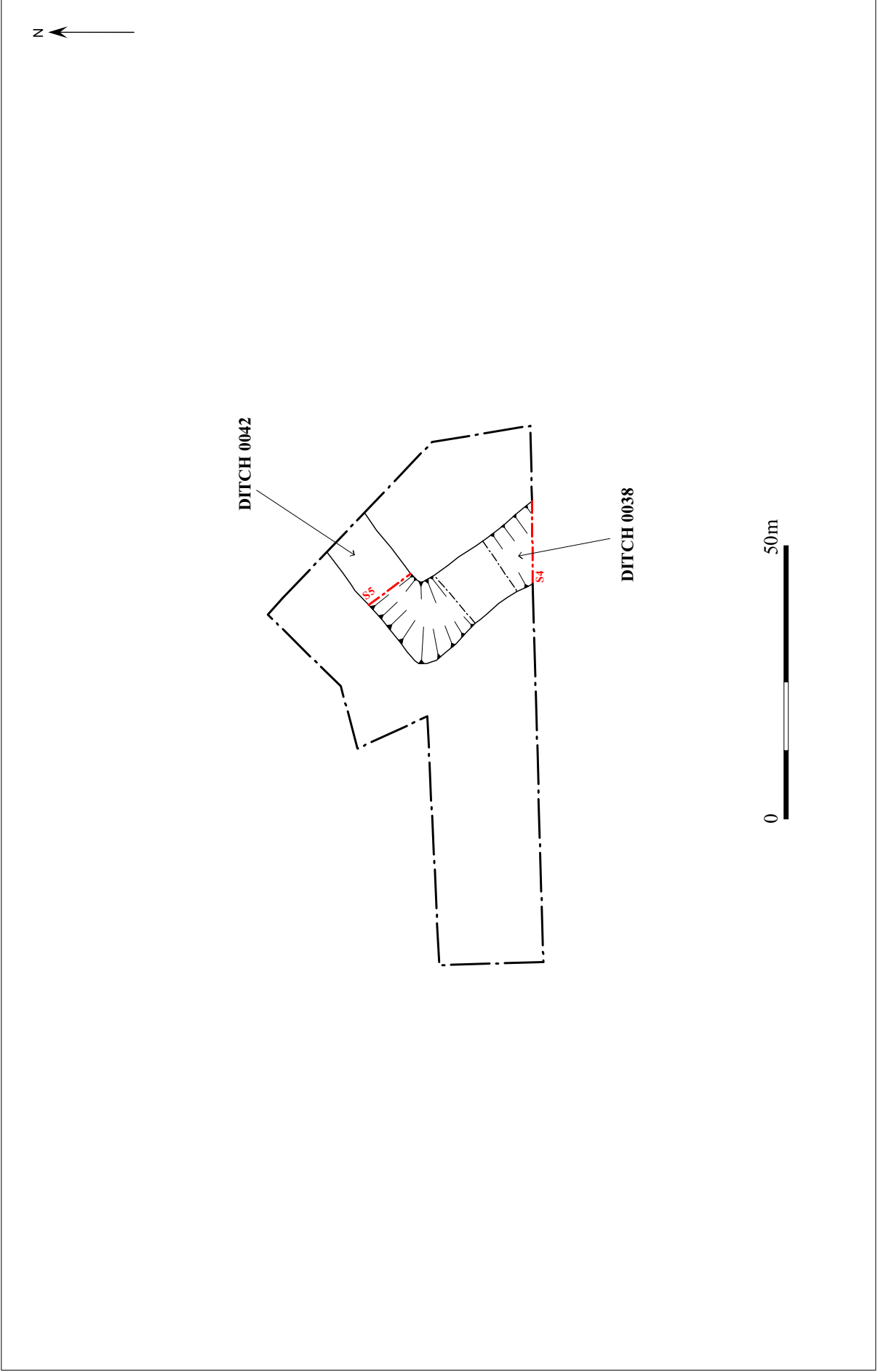


Figure 6 Plan of Trench 12

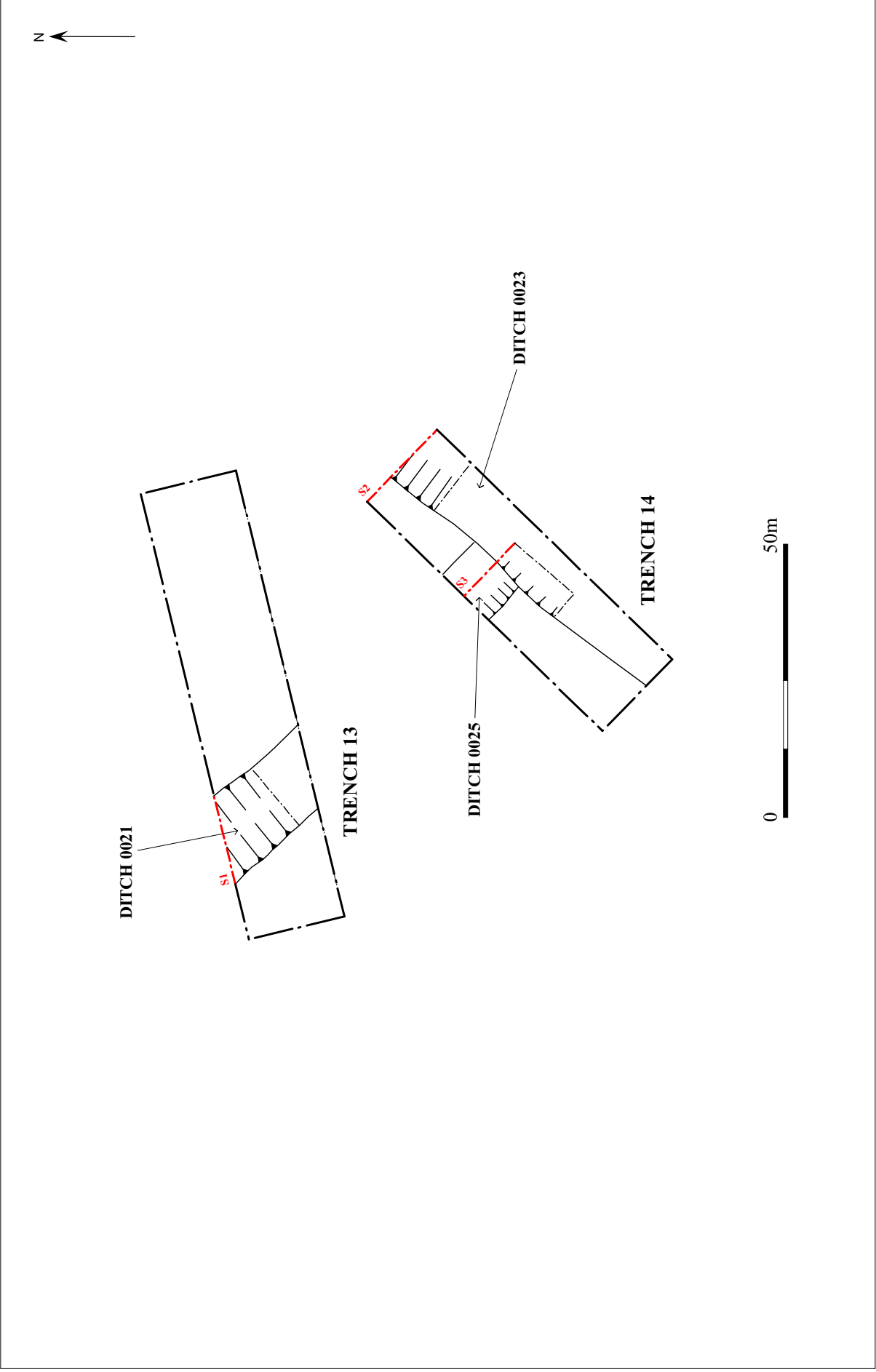
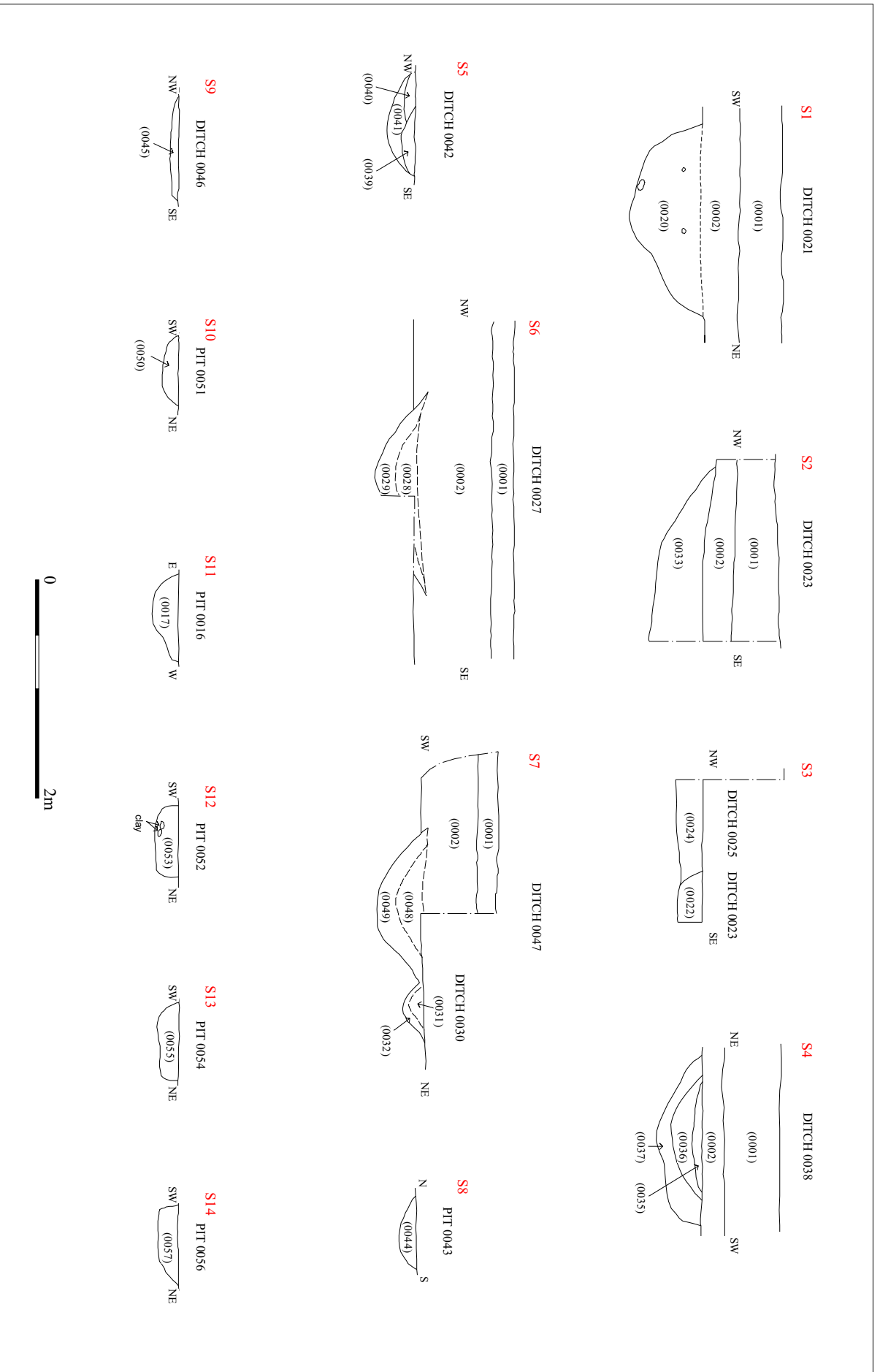


Figure 7 Plan of Trenches 13 and 14



Finds recovered from these fills comprise two sherds of medieval pottery, both of which originated from the upper fill of Ditch 0027.

An additional linear feature was recorded in this trench. It consisted of a narrow ditch, 0030, running at a similar angle to Ditch 0047. It measured 0.47m in width and was 0.19m deep. The basal fill consisted of light brown sandy silt with frequent stones (0032) and was overlain by a similar but darker and less stony deposit (0031). Two fragments of pottery were recovered, one from each fill. They consisted of a sherd of Late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery and a 1st-2nd century Roman sherd. A late prehistoric struck flint flake was recovered from the upper fill. This feature was clearly cut by Ditch 0027/0047 but did not continue to the south-east.

4.4 Trench 12

An irregular shaped trench excavated to investigate the relationship between Ditches 0003 and 0008 recorded during the evaluation (fig. 6). Both ditches were identified in this trench and both were allocated new context numbers; Ditch 0003 was numbered 0038 and Ditch 0008 was numbered 0042 at the point at which they entered the trench although on investigation it was found that they met to form a right angled corner of a single ditch. The ditch contained three distinct fills, each of which was allocated a unique context number in each of the two sections dug across the ditch. They consisted of a basal fill (numbered 0037 and 0041) of mid brown sandy silt with stone, overlain by two later deposits of sand (0036 and 0040) and loose gravel (0035 and 0039). A single sherd of mid 1st to 2nd century Roman pottery was recovered from the basal fill.

4.5 Trenches 13 and 14

These two trenches were excavated in order to assess the junction between Ditches 0003 and 0006 recorded during the evaluation (fig. 7). Trench 13 only exposed a length of Ditch 0003 (renumbered Ditch 0021) but did not encounter the junction requiring a second trench, Trench 14, which did expose the junction, to be opened.

Ditch 0021 measured 1.35m in width and 0.6m deep with a fill of grey-brown sandy silt (0020) from which a sherd of Roman pottery and fragments of post-medieval roof tile were recovered. It continued to the south-east and was picked up again in Trench 14

(numbered 0025) where it formed a perpendicular junction with Ditch 0006 (numbered 0023). This ditch ran longitudinally along Trench 14 with its south-eastern edge beyond the limits of the trench. A section cut through the junction of the two ditches indicated that the fill of Ditch 0025 (0024) was cut by Ditch 0023 (fill 0022). A further section was cut across Ditch 0023 at the north-east end of the trench which revealed it to be 0.55m deep with a single fill (0033) of grey brown sandy silt from which fragments of post-medieval roof tile were recovered.

5. The finds evidence

Andy Fawcett

5.1 Introduction

Table 1 shows the quantities of finds collected from the excavation. Finds were retrieved from thirteen contexts, eight ditch and four pit fills as well as one unstratified/hillwash context. A full breakdown by context of the bulk finds can be seen in Appendix 3. Also present are five small finds which have been recorded separately.

Find type	Number	Weight/g
Pottery	23	204
CBM	7	83
Worked flint	1	2
Burnt flint	9	38
Slate	1	6
Slag	1	20
Animal bone	7	182
Totals	49	535

Table 1. Finds quantities

5.2 Pottery

Introduction

A total of twenty-three sherds of pottery weighing 204g was recorded during the excavation. With the exception of one sherd of prehistoric and two Roman, the remainder of the assemblage is dated to the medieval period.

Methodology

All of the pottery has been examined at x20 vision and allocated to fabric groups. Codes have been assigned to these groups using the Suffolk fabric series (SCCAS).

The pottery has been recorded by sherd count, weight and EVE's and a complete catalogue by context can be seen in Appendix 4.

Prehistoric

A single abraded body sherd of hand-made flint tempered pottery was recorded in the lower fill of ditch 0030 (0032). It has an oxidised surface and contains abundant ill sorted flint (3g). No other finds are present in the context although worked and burnt flint are within other fills of the ditch.

Roman

Three ditch fills (0020, 0031 and 0041) contained single sherds of Roman pottery. The sherds are coarsewares, all of which display only slight abrasion. Context 0020 contained a grey micaceous ware (GMG) jar fragment (14g). The jar has a rolled rim (4.5), the equivalent form in Going's type series is G24 (1987) which is dated from the 2nd to 4th century. A Black surfaced ware (BSW) jar sherd was recorded in fill 0041 (49g). The fabric contains quite a lot of grog, but on balance it has a slightly sandier feel to its surfaces, rather than a soapier one, and is therefore more likely a post-conquest fabric. The jar form is in the 5.2-4 style with an everted rim and burnished surface, which exhibits cordon and bulge decoration on its shoulder. This jar style is similar to the Going G19 type (1987) for instance, and is dated from the mid 1st to early 2nd century, or slightly later. Another small body sherd of BSW, in a finer fabric (5g), is present in fill 0031. None of the Roman sherds occur alongside medieval fabrics.

Medieval

The larger part of the pottery assemblage is dated to this period (19 sherds @ 133g). The medieval assemblage as a whole is dated from the late 12th to 16th century, although the majority of sherds are placed between the late 12th and 14th centuries.

The medieval pottery group is principally composed of small body sherds and their condition may be described as being abraded to slightly abraded.

The group is primarily made up of General medieval coarsewares (MCW) which are mostly reduced and contain ill sorted quartz. Three separate cooking pot bases in this fabric were recovered from the hill wash context 0026. A cooking pot rim was noted in pit fill 0053. The rim is everted and grooved and is similar in style to Cotter's No 19

(2000, 97; fig 60). A jug (pit fill 0057) and bowl rim (ditch fill 0029) were also recorded however both are too small to be identified further.

Three sherds of Colchester type ware are present within the assemblage, two of which display traces of white slip. The earliest of these sherds is present in pit fill 0053, which is in a coarse oxidised fabric with a reduced core and is dated from the late 12th to 14th century. The two other sherds are in a later fabric style dated from the 15th to 16th century. The first of these was recorded in the hill wash context 0026 and has an oxidised fabric with a thin reduced surface. The second, in ditch fill 0045, is fully oxidised and exhibits traces of a white slip design on its surface.

5.3 Ceramic building material

Small and mostly abraded fragments of roof tile were recorded in four contexts. A full contextual breakdown of the CBM forms part of the site archive.

Small and fully oxidised fragments of post-medieval roof tile are present in ditch fills 0020, 0033 and pit fill 0017. All of these are in a medium sandy fabric with ferrous inclusions (msfe). Ditch fill 0033 also contains one fragment of abraded medieval roof tile (48g). This piece is oxidised with a thin grey core. The fabric is medium sandy with calcite and ill sorted quartz sand. An abraded and oxidised piece in pit fill 0053 is dated to the late medieval/post-medieval periods. The fabric contains ill sorted quartz, ferrous inclusions and common pin sized calcitic type voids.

5.4 Worked flint

A single long thin flake which displays no retouch (2g) was recovered from upper fill of ditch 0030 (0031). It is dated to the later prehistoric period.

5.5 Burnt flint

A small quantity of burnt flint was recorded in ditch fill 0032. The pieces are all coloured from orange to red indicating that they have been subjected to some sort of fire event (man-made or natural) rather than the 'pot boiling' process. Prehistoric pottery was also noted within the context.

5.6 Slate

A small and considerably worn piece of roofing slate was noted in pit fill 0017. Post-medieval CBM, in an equally poor state of preservation, was also recorded in the fill.

5.7 Slag

A small fragment of irregular shaped magnetic metalworking slag (20g) was retrieved from the upper fill of ditch 0027 (0028).

5.8 The small finds

A total of five small finds are present within the finds assemblage. Of these, three are silver and two are copper alloy. With the exception of one undated find the remainder are dated to the medieval period. A brief description and commentary on each find is provided and a full catalogue of small finds can be seen in Appendix 5

Medieval

1. A copper alloy personal fob seal matrix which is dated from the 14th, and perhaps into the 15th century. The seal is slightly worn with some chipping to the face edge. The face clearly displays a sleeping lion and is inscribed with the motto 'Wake me no ma'. SF1001 (0026).
2. A silver long cross penny dated from AD1247 to 1279. The coin is very worn with the bust barely visible on the obverse, whilst only three pellets can be seen on the reverse. SF1002 (0026).
3. A silver short cross penny dated from AD1180 to 1247. The coin is very worn and nothing can be seen on the obverse. The reverse has a voided short cross and two quarter foils can be seen. The lettering is illegible. SF1003 (0026).
4. A fragment of a silver long cross penny dated from AD1247 to 1279 (about one third of the coin survives). The obverse is completely worn and the reverse displays three pellets and two partial letters. SF1005 (0026).

Unknown

5. An irregularly shaped and worn fragment of copper alloy metalworking debris.

6. The environmental evidence

6.1 Faunal remains

Identified by Justine Biddle

A large but worn and incomplete fragment of pig femur was identified in the fill of ditch 0023 (0033). Six fragments of a dog mandible were also recorded in ditch fill 0032, alongside pottery dated from the Late Bronze to Early Iron Age.

6.2 Plant macrofossils

Anna West

Introduction and methods

Thirteen samples were taken from archaeological features during the excavation. The samples were processed in order to assess the preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of the archaeological investigations.

The samples were processed using a manual water flotation/washover method and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were then scanned using a binocular microscope at x16 magnification and any plant remains or artefacts present were recorded and these can be seen in Appendix 6. Plant remains have been recorded with reference to New Flora of the British Isles (Stace 2010).

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 the purpose of this assessment, items such as cereal grains, seeds and small animal bones have been recorded qualitatively according to the following categories.

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

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

x = rare, xx = moderate, xxx = abundant

Results

The preservation of all the grain and a small percentage of the weed seeds is through charring and is generally poor. Many of the charred grains are fragmented and/or abraded making identification difficult to impossible. No chaff or processing materials were present that would aid the identification. Charred weed seeds were rare but consist of grass (*Poaceae*) species.

Modern contaminants in the form of fibrous rootlets were abundant in all of the flots and represent the majority of the material in many of them.

Discussion

Charred cereals were present in many of the samples but were too abraded to identify beyond saying that they were wheat *Triticum* species. A small number of the caryopses recorded were from a hulled barley probably (*Hordeum vulgare*) but on the whole the identifiable cereal remains were relatively limited within the samples. Charred legumes such as peas (*Pisium sp.*) were only present in one sample and probably represent wild species that have become incorporated into the cereal crop rather than vegetable production. The sparse quantities of charred cereal remains are more consistent with windblown or re-deposited material rather than purposely deposited waste.

Charred seeds were limited in number and were mainly made up of grasses (*Poaceae sp.*). These are common arable weeds that may have been accidentally harvested along with the crop and would have been hand cleaned from the grain as part of the final stage of processing.

The majority of the seeds present were un-charred and consist of Elder (*Sambucus nigra* L.), Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* L.), Cleavers (*Gallium aparine*), Fumitory (*Fumaria capreolata*), Black Nightshade (*Solanum nigrum*), White Clover (*Trifolium repens* L.) and Goosefoot family (*Chenopodium sp.*). Many of these are un-abraded and are

possibly intrusive within the archaeological features, representing the present immediate environment of the site.

Probably more significant than the botanical remains is the presence of magnetic material within ten of the thirteen samples. Ferrous spheroids/globules are formed during primary smithing as hot droplets of slag are expelled. Flake hammerscale is formed during iron working through thermal or mechanical shock. The presence of hammerscale suggests that metal working was taking place in the near vicinity. It must be remembered however that many of the features were filled with a hillwash so it is possible that this material, along with the botanical remains may have been moved from their primary location and re-deposited within the archaeological features.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In general the samples were poor in terms of identifiable material. The small number of cereal grains recovered were charred and abraded, but remained on the whole, along with the charred seeds, identifiable to an archaeobotanist. Most of the samples processed produced only small quantities of wood charcoal. If it is considered necessary it may be possible in the future to obtain radiocarbon dates from charred grains or small charcoal fragments for those deposits that remain undated. However as previously mentioned it can not be guaranteed that these dates will reflect accurately those of the contexts sampled given the likelihood that the samples have seen contamination via the hillwash encountered on this site.

7. Discussion of the finds and environmental evidence

The number and range of finds recovered from the excavation is small. However, the finds represent four time periods, prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval.

Finds dated to the later prehistoric period include a small and abraded fragment of pot and worked/burnt flint which was predominantly recovered from ditch 0030 towards the east of the site. During the evaluation (Fawcett 2012) a fragment of worked flint (hillwash layer 0002) and pottery (pit 0016) dated to the later prehistoric period were recorded. The nearest prehistoric find spot from the current site is around three quarters of a kilometre away to the south-east, a Bronze Age axe-head (BSM 030).

A small quantity of Roman pottery was retrieved from ditch fills at the east and south-west of the site. Only a single sherd of pottery dated to this period was recorded at the evaluation stage, from hill-wash layer 0002. The nearest Roman finds record is a small number of coins just under a kilometre away to the south-east (BSM 030).

No medieval finds were noted at the evaluation stage of the project. However, pottery, a very small quantity of CBM and small finds were identified during the current excavation phase. The majority of these were noted within the hill-wash layer, and around the quarry pit area, in ditch 0046 and a series of pits (0051, 0052 and 0056). Despite the sites close proximity to the medieval core of Bures St Mary, no other finds dated to this period have been recorded around the immediate area.

With the exception of very small and abraded fragments of post-medieval CBM no other finds were dated to this period.

Few finds for any period have been recorded around Bures St Mary, therefore this group adds new dating evidence to the existing parish record. The prehistoric and Roman finds may well be residual, nonetheless they demonstrate that activity dated to this period took place around the vicinity of the current site. More consistent is the occurrence of medieval finds, both within the hill-wash layer and other features. Some of these finds too may be residual in later features, however the immediacy of the medieval town to the excavated area, means that their presence (by natural means, manuring or as deliberately placed waste) at this location is not surprising.

8. Overall Discussion

The recorded ditches are aligned, parallel or perpendicular to each other suggesting they are probably contemporary in date, which in general was proved in the excavated junctions. They form part of rectilinear field system that within the development area comprised of three parallel strips aligned south-west to north-east with two have perpendicular divisions. Figure 9 depicts the recorded ditches and projections of the probable layout of fields within the development site.

The south-eastern boundary is formed by a ditch (0023) which coincides with the existing site edge. This ditch cuts the perpendicular ditch (0021) although this is

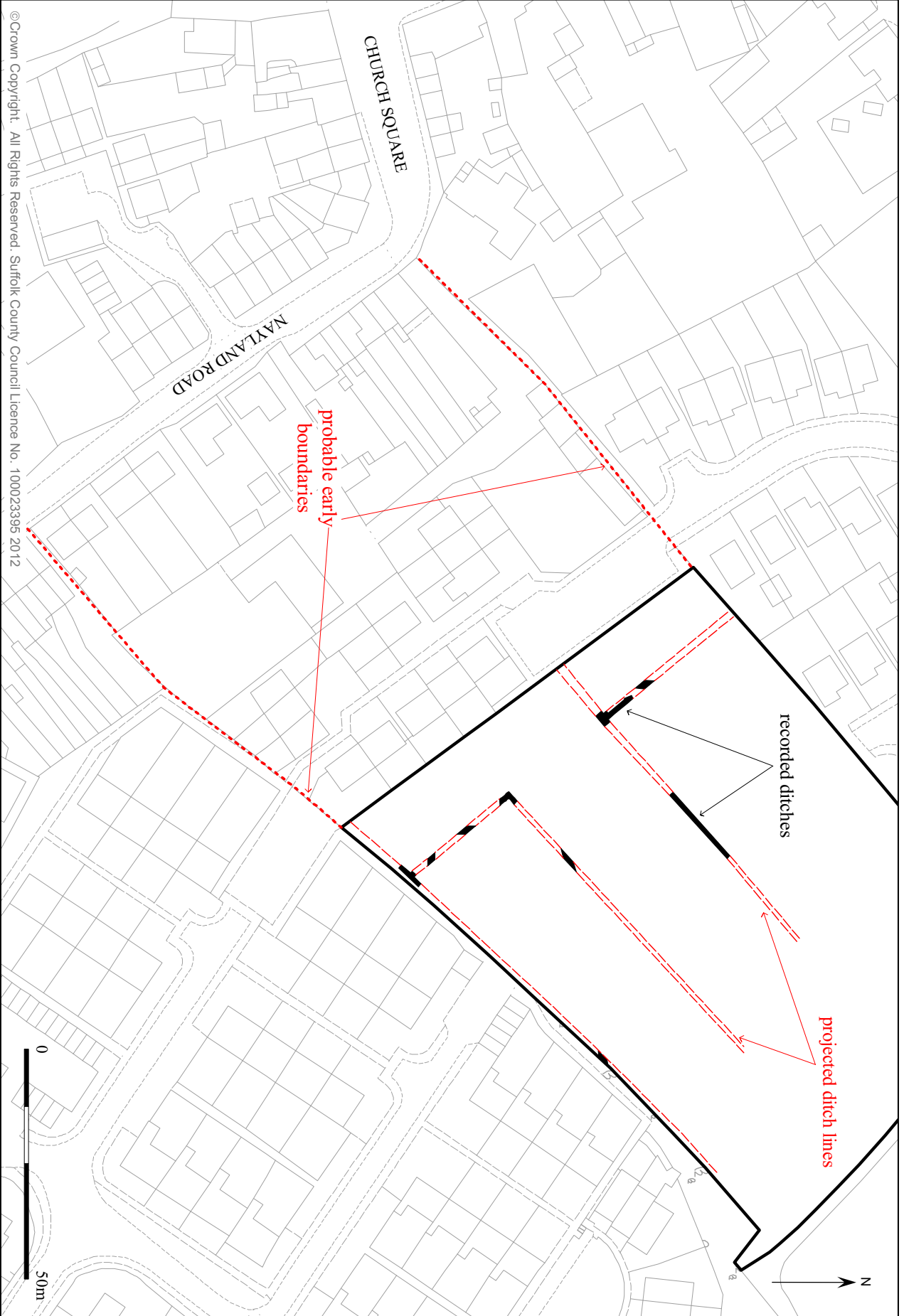


Figure 9 Projected ditch lines and their relationship to existing boundaries

probably a result of this ditch having been re-cut and is a reflection of its continuing use into later periods. It is highly likely that the north-western edge of the development site is also an early boundary and suggests that the probable field system is partially preserved by some of the existing boundaries on this side of village. In figure 9 it can be seen that the two probably early boundaries continue to Nayland Road to the south-west.

The south-eastern of the two strips within the field system were each c. 27m wide whilst the north-western strip was c. 37m wide. The north-western strip was divided into two smaller fields by a perpendicular ditch (0047). This ditch is aligned with a second perpendicular ditch (0021/38) that forms the south-western boundary of the south-eastern strip leaving the central strip at a width of c. 54m.

The dating evidence recovered from the ditch features is sparse and consequently the dating of the field system is not entirely secure. The latest pottery recovered from the ditches is medieval and the ditches appear to be partially sealed by the hillwash layer, which contains medieval material. They are also perpendicular to Nayland Road which is at least medieval in origin. These facts taken together strongly suggest that the ditches are part of a medieval system of fields or plots, possibly private plots attached to properties that fronted onto Nayland Road.

The pits recorded within Area 1 are somewhat problematic. They at first glance appear to be post holes related to a probable structure, being similar in nature and regularly spaced, although only a single row is present. It is possible that further post holes could have been destroyed by the ditch but the excavation of a ditch section suggests this is not the case. These features could not be seen higher up in the sequence although the fills are similar to the overburden that was removed making identification difficult and this cannot be seen as conclusive proof that they were sealed by the hillwash (in the case of the ditches the fact they were partially sealed could only be seen in section). Their appearance at the time of excavation hinted at a later, probably post medieval date and it is possible they are related to horticultural activity on the site, being possibly excavated for planting. The finds that were recovered from their fills consist of small abraded sherds of Iron Age and medieval date which are probably residual.

The Roman and prehistoric pottery sherds recovered from the ditch fills are residual finds in what are clearly later features. The prehistoric pottery comprised a single abraded sherd that reflects a general background of prehistoric activity in the Stour Valley. It has probably travelled in the hillwash from higher up the valley side suggesting the possible presence of a hilltop settlement. No Roman sites are known in the vicinity of the development area although the pottery recovered is only slightly abraded, suggesting it has not travelled a great distance. It could therefore indicate that an unknown Roman settlement site probably exists in the locality.

9. Conclusions

The ditches revealed during the evaluation and subsequent excavation are probably medieval in date and form part of a field system running up the hill from the village of Bures. They possibly represent plots associated with medieval properties in the village that fronted onto Nayland Road.

The line of pits or possible post holes recorded within Area 1 are unlikely to represent a built structure but are probably related to horticultural activity on the site in the post medieval period.

The prehistoric and Roman pottery recorded from some of the features is residual. The prehistoric material is part of general background of activity in the valley. The Roman pottery suggests an unknown Roman settlement site is likely to exist in the vicinity of the development area.

10. Archive deposition

The site and research archive generated both from the evaluation and excavation will be stored within the premises of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service. The primary paper archive will be by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service at their main office; the finds are located in the Suffolk County Council archaeological store.

The digital archive will be retained on the Suffolk County Council servers with appropriate backup although ultimately it is intended to send copies of the digital archive

to Arts and Humanities Data Service (AHDS). Metadata will be created in line with the archive guidelines.

The photographic archive for the excavation consists of 27 digital images (jpeg format) which are held on the County servers under the references HQE 01 to HQE 27.

11. Acknowledgements

This project was commissioned by CgMs, archaeological consultants acting on behalf of their client who ultimately funded the work. The archaeological work was monitored by Sarah Poppy of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Conservation Team.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Preston Boyles, Roy Damant and Mark Sommers, all of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service.

The project was managed by Rhodri Gardner who also provided much help and advice during the project.

The finds were processed by Jonathan Van Jennians and the finds report was produced by Andy Fawcett.

12. Bibliography

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

**Land South of Friends Field, Bures St
Mary, Suffolk
(Excavation)**

Rhodri Gardner
© July 2012
www.suffolk.gov.uk/environment/archaeology

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Document Control

Title: Land South of Friends Field, Bures St Mary, Suffolk
Date: July 2012
Issued by: Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team
Author: Rhodri Gardner
Approved by: Sarah Poppy
Issued to: Matthew Smith, CgMs Consulting

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2. Project details
3. Archaeological method statement
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1. Site location
2. Site detail

1. Background

1.1 The Field Team of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) has been asked by CgMs Consulting (on behalf of their client) to prepare documentation for archaeological excavation works at the site off Friends Field, Bures St Mary (Figs. 1 & 2). This Written Scheme of Investigation covers that work only.

1.2 The archaeological excavation is required in accordance with PPS 5 (Policy HE12.3), which states that:

Where development will lead to loss of a material part of the significance of a heritage asset, policy HE12.3 requires local planning authorities to ensure that developers take advantage of the opportunity to advance our understanding of the past before the asset or the relevant part is irretrievably lost. As this is the only opportunity to do this it is important that:

1. Any investigation, including recording and sampling, is carried out to professional standards and to an appropriate level of detail proportionate to the asset's likely significance, by an organisation or individual with appropriate expertise.

2. The resultant records, artefacts and samples are analysed and where necessary conserved.

3. The understanding gained is made publicly available.

4. An archive is created, and deposited for future research.

1.3 The site has previously been subject to a trial trench evaluation by SCCAS FT (Sommers, 2012, SCCAS Report No 2012/93). This did not reveal widespread archaeological features, but did identify a pit of likely prehistoric date and a complex of undated ditch features. The works specified here are as a result of that discovery and are intended to ensure that any further archaeological features in the area of the pit are recorded and further dating evidence of the ditch features can be sought and recovered.

1.4 The works described in this document have been required by a condition of Planning Application B/11/00825/FUL.

1.5 All fieldwork would be carried out by members of SCCAS Field Team under the supervision of Project Officer Mark Sommers. Project management would be the responsibility of Acting Contracts Manager Rhodri Gardner.

1.6 All work required by this planning condition will be carried out in accordance with a Brief and Specification describing the work produced by Sarah Poppy of the SCCAS Conservation Team (TBA).



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Figure 1. Site location

2. Project details

Site Information

Site Name	Land off Friends Field
Site Location/Parish	Bures St Mary
Grid Reference	TL 9092 3409
Access	Off Friends Field
Planning No	B/11/00825/FUL
HER code	BSM 061
OASIS Ref	Not yet allocated
SCCAS Job Code	IPSW/CRN/002
Type:	Open area excavation plus 3 x 10m trial trenches
Area	c. 750m ²
Project start date	Week beginning 06/08/12
Duration	c. 6 days
Number of personnel on site	Up to 3

Personnel and contact numbers

Project Manager	Rhodri Gardner	01473 581743
Project Officer (first point of on-site contact)	Mark Sommers	01473 583288 or 07753 788607 site mobile)
Finds Dept	Richenda Goffin	01284 352447
Sub-contractors	N/A	
Curatorial Officer	Sarah Poppy	01284 741226
Consultant	Matthew Smith CgMs	020 7832 0284
Developer		-
Client		-
Site landowner		-

Emergency contacts

Local Police	Ipswich Police	01473 613500
Local GP	-	-
Location of nearest A&E	Ipswich Hospital, Heath Road, Ipswich, IP4 5PD	01473 712233
Qualified First Aiders	TBA	
Base emergency no.	N/A	

Hire details

Plant:	Holmes Plant	01473 890 766
Accommodation Hire	Capel Plant	01206 844 004
Toilet Hire	Capel Plant	01206 844 004
Tool hire	N/A	

Other Contacts

Suffolk Fleet Maintenance		01359 270777
Suffolk Press Office		01473 264395
Environment Strategy Manager (James Wilson)		01473 264810
SCC H&S (Phil Parham)		01473 260207

3. Archaeological fieldwork method statement

Fieldwork: Excavation

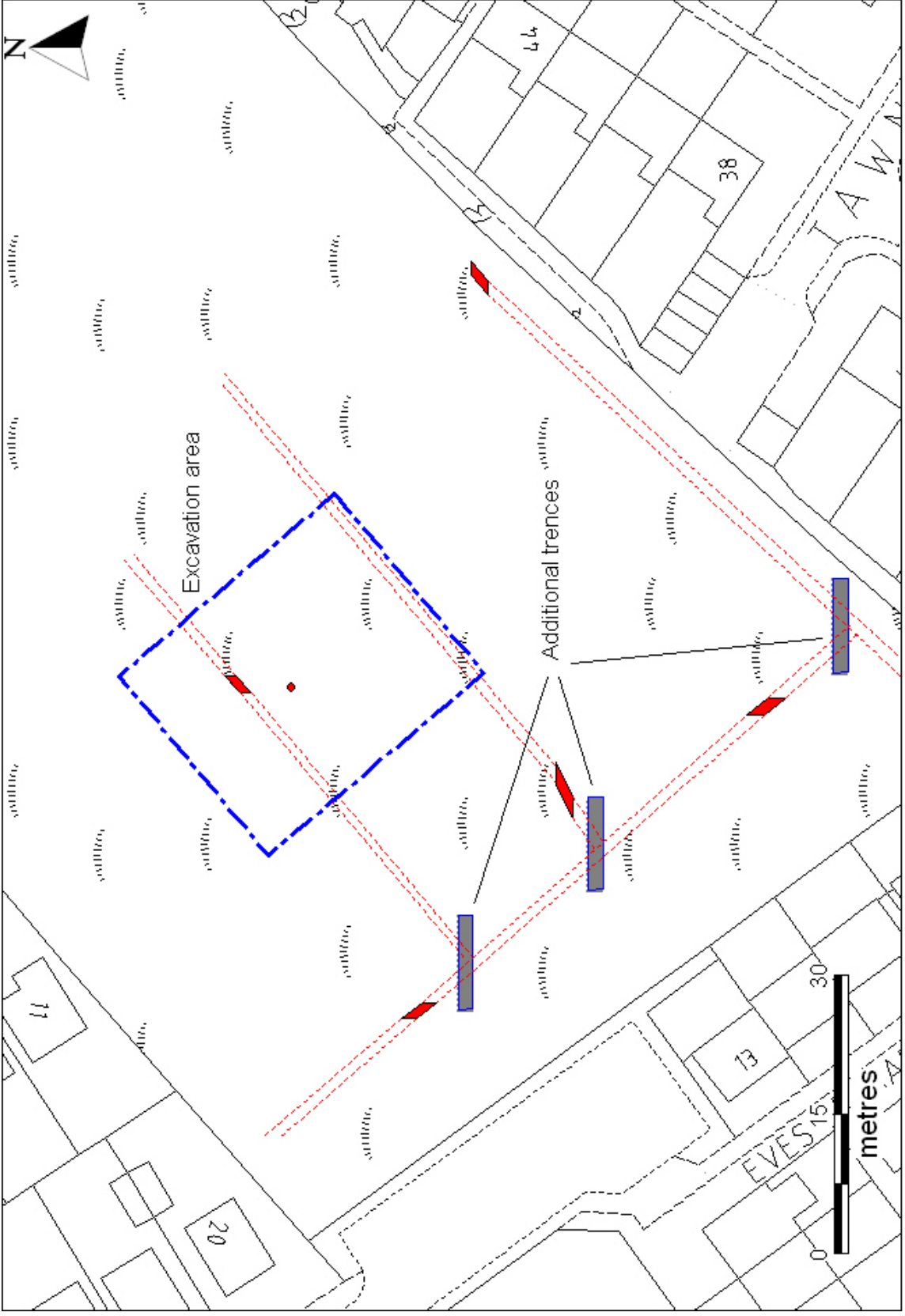
- 3.1 The archaeological fieldwork will be carried out by members of the SCCAS field team led by an experienced member of staff of Project Officer Grade. The excavation team will comprise up to 2 experienced excavators and surveyors from a pool of suitable staff at SCCAS. Fieldwork standards will be guided by 'Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England' EAA Occasional Papers 14.
- 3.2 All mechanised stripping operations will be carried out using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator. A toothless ditching bucket will be used to remove the overburden down to the top of the archaeological deposits. Machine clearance work will be carried out under the direct supervision of an archaeologist at all times. All overburden will be removed stratigraphically until the first undisturbed archaeological horizon or natural deposit is encountered.
- 3.3 Spoil will be temporarily stockpiled adjacent to the site until hand excavation is complete. These arisings will be used for reinstatement at the end of the works. No additional material will be imported.
- 3.4 The site area is shown in Figure 2. The open area measures 30m x 25m and covers an area of c. 750m². This area has been specified in order to ensure that any further prehistoric pits in the immediate environs of that identified in the trial trenching can be recorded.
- 3.5 Three further trial trenches (each measuring c. 10m x 1.8m) have also been specified to confirm the layout of the ditch features, and also attempt to recover dating evidence.
- 3.6 The area is currently under grass. The turf will not be reinstated, but the mixed arisings will be returned and compacted using the supplied mechanical excavator.
- 3.7 In accordance with the requirements of the specification all archaeological features will be hand excavated and recorded as follows (as a minimum):

Features that are, or could be interpreted as, structural will be excavated fully. Post holes and pits will be examined in section initially and then excavated fully. Fabricated surfaces (internal and external) will be exposed fully. All other features will be sufficiently examined to establish, where possible, their date and function. For example:

A minimum of 50% of the fills of discrete features such as pits will be excavated (in some instances 100% may be requested by the Archaeological Officer).

Linear features (ditches, etc) will be sample excavated (minimum of 10%) by means of 1m wide slots across their width.

- 3.8 Archaeological features will be planned at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50, as appropriate, and located using a Total Station Theodolite or RTK GPS unit as appropriate. Sections/profiles will be drawn at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20, also as appropriate.
- 3.9 All archaeological deposits and features will be recorded using SCCAS *pro forma* context sheets in a single numerical sequence using the unique HER number (site code). All hand-drawn plans and sections will be made on archive-stable, gridded drawing film.
- 3.10 All finds will be bagged and labelled with the site code and context number. No discard policy will be considered until after the fieldwork stage is completed.
- 3.11 A digital photographic record will be made at all stages of the fieldwork.
- 3.12 Bulk environmental soil samples (40 litres each) will be taken from selected archaeological features and retained until an appropriate specialist has assessed their potential for palaeo-environmental remains. The sampling strategy will address questions of:
 - the range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged), and their quality,
 - concentrations of macro-remains,
 - and differences in remains from undated and dated features
 - variation between different feature types and areas of site
- 3.13 Decisions will be made on the need for further analysis of environmental samples following this assessment. If necessary advice will be sought from English Heritage's Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science on the need for specialist environmental sampling.
- 3.14 All fieldwork will be guided by standards outlined in Gurney, D. 'Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England' East Anglian Archaeology Series Occasional paper 14, 2003.
- 3.15 In the event of human remains being encountered on the site, guidelines from the Ministry of Justice will be followed.



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Figure 2. Site detail showing excavation area and additional trial trenches

4. Post-excavation method statement

- 4.1 The post-excavation work will be managed by Richenda Goffin. Specialist finds staff will be used, who are all experienced in local and regional types and periods for their field.
- 4.2 The site archive will be consistent with 'Management of Archaeological Projects' (English Heritage, 1991) and Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE, English Heritage, 2006).
- 4.3 All site data will be entered on a computerised database compatible with the County HER. All site plans and sections will be copied to form a permanent archive on archivally stable material. Ordnance Datum levels will be on the section sheets. The photographic archive will be fully catalogued within the County SMR photographic index.
- 4.4 All finds will be processed, marked and bagged/boxed to County SMR requirements. Where appropriate finds will be marked with a site code and a context number.
- 4.5 Bulk finds will be fully quantified on a computerised database compatible with the County SMR. Quantification will fully cover weights and numbers of finds by OP and context with a clear statement for specialists on the degree of apparent residuality observed.
- 4.6 Metal finds on site will be stored in accordance with ICON guidelines, initially recorded assessed for significance before dispatch to a conservation laboratory within 4 weeks of the end of the excavation. All pre-modern silver, copper alloy and ferrous metal artefacts will be x-rayed and coins will be x-rayed if necessary for identification. Sensitive finds will be conserved if necessary and deposited in bags/boxes suitable for long term storage to ICON standards. All coins will be identified to a standard acceptable to normal numismatic research.
- 4.7 Specialist reports will be done in-house or commissioned as necessary to meet the requisite standards at assessment level.
- 4.8 The site archive will meet the standards 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 Finds Research Group AD700 - 1700 (1993).
- 4.9 The pottery will be recorded and archived to a standard consistent with the Draft Guidelines of the Medieval Pottery Research Group and Guidelines for the archiving of Roman Pottery, SGRP (ed. M.G. Darling, 1994).

- 4.10 Environmental samples will be processed and assessed to standards set by the Regional Environmental Archaeologist with a clear statement of potential for further analysis.
- 4.11 Animal and human bone will be quantified and assessed to a standard acceptable to national and regional English Heritage specialists.
- 4.12 An industrial waste assessment will cover all relevant material (i.e. fired clay finds as well as slag).

Appendix 2. Context list

Context Number	Feature Number	Feature Type	Description	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts
0001		Layer	Topsoil	0002, 0013			
0002		Layer	layer of pale brown sandy silt underlying the topsoil and overlying the natural subsoil	0003, 0006, 0008, 0011, 0014, 0016, 0018, 0021, 0023, 0025, 0027, 0030, 0034, 0038, 0042, 0043, 0046, 0047, 0051, 0052, 0054, 0056	0001		
0003	0003	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut interpreted as a ditch		0002		
0004	0003	Ditch Fill	upper fill of cut 0003. Consists of pale brown silty sand	0005			
0005	0003	Ditch Fill	primary fill of cut 0003. Consists of dense stony pale brown silty sand		0004		
0006	0006	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut interpreted as a ditch		0002		
0007	0006	Ditch Fill	fill of cut 0006. Consists of mid to pale brown silty sand				
0008	0008	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut interpreted as a ditch		0002		
0009	0008	Ditch Fill	upper fill of cut 0008. Consists of pale to mid brown silty sand	0010			
0010	0008	Ditch Fill	primary fill of cut 0008. Consists of dense stony pale brown silty sand		0009		
0011	0011	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut interpreted as a ditch		0002		
0012	0011	Ditch Fill	fill of cut 0011. Consists of stony pale brown silty sand				
0013	0013	Pit Cut	large pit. In excess of 2.5m in depth. Appears in trenches 5, 6, 7 and 8 (later noted in Trench 9 and Area 1 of the excavation)		0001		

Context Number	Feature Number	Feature Type	Description	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts
0014	0014	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut interpreted as a ditch		0002		
0015	0014	Ditch Fill	Fill of cut 0014. Consists of pale grey-brown silty sand				
0016	0016	Pit Cut	Roughly circular shaped cut		0002		
0017	0016	Pit Fill	fill of cut 0016. Consists of a relatively soft and friable mid brown sandy silt from which a single sherd of what is probably Iron pottery was recovered				
0018	0018	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut interpreted as a ditch		0002		
0019	0018	Ditch Fill	fill of cut 0018. Consists of pale brown silty sand				
0020	0021	Ditch Fill	fill of cut 0021. Consists of mid to dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional stone				
0021	0021	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut. Interpreted as a ditch. Same as Ditch 0003		0002		
0022	0023	Ditch Fill	fill of cut 0023. Consists of mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional stone				
0023	0023	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut. Interpreted as a ditch. Same as Ditch 0006		0002		
0024	0021	Ditch Fill	fill of cut 0025. Consists of mid to dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional stone				
0025	0021	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut. Interpreted as a ditch. Same as Ditch 0003		0002		
0026	0002	Layer	layer of pale brown sandy silt underlying the topsoil and overlying the natural subsoil within the excavation area				
0027	0027	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut. Interpreted as a ditch.		0002		0030, 0031, 0032

Context Number	Feature Number	Feature Type	Description	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts
			Same as Ditch 0014				
0028	0027	Ditch Fill	upper fill of cut 0027. Consists of mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks				
0029	0027	Ditch Fill	lower fill of cut 0027. Consists of light brown sandy silt with frequent small stones				
0030	0030	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut. Interpreted as a ditch. Narrow and shallow, roughly parallel to 0047		0002	0027	
0031	0030	Ditch Fill	upper fill of Ditch 0030. Consists of grey-brown sandy silt with occasional small stones			0027	
0032	0030	Ditch Fill	lower fill of Ditch 0030. Consists of light brown sandy silt with frequent small stones			0027	
0033	0023	Ditch Fill	fill of cut 0023. Consists of mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional stone				
0034	0023	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut. Interpreted as a ditch. Same as 0023 (which is same as 0006)		0002		
0035	0021	Ditch Fill	upper fill within ditch cut 0038. Consists of loose gravel				
0036	0021	Ditch Fill	fill within ditch cut 0038. Consists of mid yellow sand				
0037	0021	Ditch Fill	lower fill within ditch cut 0038. Consists of mid to dark mottled brown grey silt with moderate stone				
0038	0021	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut. Interpreted as a ditch. Same as 0003. Forms a right-angled junction with ditch 0042 (suggesting		0002		

Context Number	Feature Number	Feature Type	Description	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts
			0038 and 0042 are the same ditch which has turned a corner)				
0039	0042	Ditch Fill	upper fill within ditch cut 0042. Consists of loose gravel				
0040	0042	Ditch Fill	fill within ditch cut 0042. Consists of mid yellow sand				
0041	0042	Ditch Fill	lower fill within ditch cut 0042. Consists of mid to dark mottled brown grey silt with moderate stone				
0042	0042	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut. Interpreted as a ditch. Same as 0003. Forms a right-angled junction with ditch 0038 (suggesting 0038 and 0042 are the same ditch which has turned a corner)		0002		
0043	0043	Pit Cut	small oval shaped feature cut with sloping sides and a rounded base		0002		
0044	0043	Pit Fill	fill of cut 0043 consisting of mid to pale brown silty sand with infrequent charcoal flecks. Very few stones				
0045	0046	Ditch Fill	fill of ditch 0046. Consists of mid yellow/grey sandy silt with moderate stone				
0046	0046	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut. Interpreted as a ditch. Same as ditch 0014		0002		
0047	0047	Ditch Cut	linear feature cut. Interpreted as a ditch. Same as ditch 0018. ditch 0030 probably related		0002		
0048	0047	Ditch Fill	upper fill of cut 0047. Consists of mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks				
0049	0047	Ditch Fill	lower fill of cut 0047.				

Context Number	Feature Number	Feature Type	Description	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts
			Consists of light brown sandy silt with frequent small stones				
0050	0051	Pit Fill	fill of cut 0051. Consists of dark brownish-grey sandy silt with occasional small and medium sized stone and occasional flecks of charcoal				
0051	0051	Pit Cut	sub-square shaped cut with steep, near vertical sides, and a flattish base.		0002		
0052	0052	Pit Cut	sub-square shaped cut with rounded corners, steep, near vertical sides and a flattish base.		0002		
0053	0052	Pit Fill	fill of pit 0052. Consists of mid brown silty sand with a lens of stiff 'boulder' clay towards the base, very infrequent charcoal flecks and occasional stones				
0054	0054	Pit Cut	sub-square shaped cut with rounded corners, steep, near vertical sides and a flattish base.		0002		
0055	0054	Pit Fill	fill of cut 0054. Consists of mid brown silty sand with very occasional charcoal flecks and some stone				
0056	0056	Pit Cut	sub-square shaped cut with rounded corners, steep, near vertical sides and a flattish base.		0002		
0057	0056	Pit Fill	fill of cut 0056. Consists of mid brown silty sand with very occasional charcoal flecks and some stone				

Appendix 3. Bulk finds

Contex	Pottery		CBM		Slag		Flint				Stone		Bone			
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Worked	Burnt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Animal	Human		
0017	0	0	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods: Overall Date:
0017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods: Overall Date:
0020	1	13	1	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods:Rom Overall Date: 2nd-4th C
0026	8	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods:Med Overall Date: 15th-16th C (also present L12th-14th C)
0028	4	43	0	0	1	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods:?Med Overall Date: L12th-14th C
0029	4	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods: Overall Date:
0029	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods: Overall Date:
0031	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods:Rom Overall Date: Roman
0032	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	38	0	0	6	17	0	Ceramic Periods:Pre Overall Date:
0032	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods:Pre Overall Date: LBA-EIA
0033	0	0	2	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	165	0	Ceramic Periods: Overall Date:
0041	1	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods:Rom Overall Date: M1st-E/M2nd C
0045	1	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods:Med Pmed Overall Date: L13th-16th C (likely to be L15th-16th C)
0045	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods:Med Pmed Overall Date:
0050	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods:Med Overall Date: L12th-14th C
0053	2	7	1	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods:Med Overall Date: L13th-14th C
0057	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ceramic Periods:Med Overall Date: L12th-14th C

Appendix 4. Pot catalogue

<u>Context No</u>	<u>Fabric</u>	<u>Form</u>	<u>Decoration</u>	<u>No EVE</u>	<u>Wgt/g</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Fabric date range</u>	<u>Context date</u>	
0032	HMF	Body		1	0	3	Abr	Oxidised surface	LBA-EIA	LBA-EIA
0020	GMG	Jar 4.5		1	0.1	14	Sli	Close to Gx, same as Going G24	2nd-4th C	2nd-4th C
0041	BSW	Jar 5.2-4	cordon/bulge	1	0.12	49	Sli	Close to GT but sandier feel, same Going G19	M1st-E/M2nd C	M1st-E/M2nd C
0031	BSW	Body		1	0	5	Sli		Roman	Roman
0026	COLL	Body		1	0	15	Sli	Orange fabric with reduced surface	15th-16th C	L12th-16th C
0026	MCW	Body		4	0	22	Sli	All reduced with ill sorted quartz	L12th-14th C	(most L12th-14th C)
0026	MCW	Base		3	0	16	Abr-sli	Total = 0.13. Three reduced cooking pot bases	L12th-14th C	
0028	MCW	Body		1	0	16	Sli	Dark grey surface with sparse organics	L12th-14th C	L12th-14th C
0028	MCW	Body		3	0	26	Sli	All join, Essex style fabric	L12th-14th C	
0045	COLC	Body	white slip	1	0	12	Sli	The sherd style indicates a L15th-16th date is likely	L13th-16th	L13th-16th C
0050	MCW	Body		1	0	3	Sli		L12th-14th C	L12th-14th C
0053	COLC	Body	white slip	1	0	3	Sli	Coarse with a reduced grey core	L13th-16th C	L12th-14th C
0053	MCW	Cooking pot		1	0.04	4	Sli	Similar to Cotter 2000, 97; fig 60, no 19	L12th-14th C	
0057	MCW	Jug		1	0.07	7	Abr	Too small for a form match	L12th-14th C	L12th-14th C
0029	MCW	Bowl		1	0.03	7	Abr	Too small for a form match	L12th-14th C	L12th-14th C
0045	MCW	Body		1	0	2	Abr		L12th-14th C	

Appendix 5. Small finds

SF No	Context	Period	Material	Object	No. of	Weight (g)	Length	Width	Description
1001	0026	Medieval	Copper alloy	Fob seal matrix	1	5	19	17	A personal seal which is slightly worn with some chipping to the seal face. The seal has the image of a sleeping lion and is inscribed with the motto 'Wake me no ma'
1002	0026	Medieval	Silver	Coin	1	1		14	Very worn example of a long cross penny dated from AD1247 to 1279. The lettering is illegible and the bust on obverse is barely visible. Only three pellets can be seen on
1003	0026	Medieval	Silver	Coin	1	1		19	Half of a short cross penny dated from AD1180 to 1247. The coin is very worn and nothing can be seen on the obverse. The reverse has a voided short cross and two quarter foils can also be seen.
1004	0026	Unknow	Copper alloy	Metalwork debris	1	8	27	20	A fragment of metalworking debris which is worn and irregularly shaped.
1005	0026	Medieval	Silver	Coin	1	1		15	A fragment (around one third) of a long cross penny dated from AD1247 to 1279. The obverse is completely worn. The reverse displays three pellets and two partial letters.

Appendix 6. Plant macrofossils and other remains

Sample No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Context No.	0020	0033	0041	0044	0045	0050	0017	0053	0055	0057	0049	0032	0029
Cut No.	0021	0034	0042	0043	0046	0051	0016	0052	0054	0056	0047	0030	0027
Feature type	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Pit	Ditch	Post hole	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch
Date	2-4th C				13th-16th C	12th-14th C		L12th-14th C		L12th-14th C		LBA-EIA	L12th-14th C
Cereals and other food plants													
<i>Triticum spelta</i> L.	#											#	
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.			#					#					
<i>Triticum aestivum</i> L.			#									#	
<i>Triticum</i> sp.										#	#		
Cereal indent. (grains)			#	#				#	#			#	#
<i>Pisium sativum</i> L.												#	
Weeds/other charred													
Small Poaceae indent.									#			#	
Weeds/other un-charred													
Small Poaceae indent.							xx						
<i>Galium aparine</i> L.	#	#											
<i>Rubus</i> sp.		#			#	#	##	#	#	#			
<i>Rubus idaeus</i> L.							#						
<i>Trifolium repens</i> L.													
<i>Brassica</i> sp.	#												
<i>Fumaria capreolata</i> L.				#									
<i>Viola</i> sp.		#											
<i>Solanum nigrum</i> L.						#	#		#	#			

Appendix 7. OASIS data collection form

OASIS ID: suffolkc1-134918	
Project details	
Project name	BSM 061 - Land south of Friends Field, Bures St Mary, Suffolk
Short description of the project	excavation of a small area prior to a housing development revealed a number of probably medieval ditches forming rectilinear fields and a number of probably post-medieval pits. Finds are very sparse although some medieval pottery and a coins were recovered from an overlying hillwash deposit. Some Roman and prehistoric pottery was also recovered as residual finds.
Project dates	Start: 06-08-2012 End: 12-10-2012
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	BSM 061 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	B/11/00825/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation"
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH BURES ST MARY BSM 061 - Land south of Friends Field,
Study area	830.00 Square metres

Site coordinates	TL 9092 3409 51 0 51 58 18 N 000 46 47 E Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team
Project director/manager	Rhodri Gardner
Project supervisor	Mark Sommers
Type of sponsor/funding body	Consultant on behalf of client
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Physical Archive ID	BSM 061
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Digital Archive ID	BSM 061
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Paper Archive ID	BSM 061
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Correspondence","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Excavation Report: Land south of Friends Field, Bures St Mary
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Sommers, M.
Other bibliographic details	SCCAS 2012/143
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Place of issue or publication	Ipswich
Description	printed sheets of A4 paper
Entered by	ms (mark.sommers@suffolk.gov.uk)
Entered on	3 October 2012

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