

High Lodge, Santon Downham STN 094

Archaeological Monitoring Report

SCCAS Report No. 2013/025

Client: Forestry Commission

Author: Rob Brooks

March/2013

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Author: Rob Brooks

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Report Date: March/2013

HER Information

Site Code: STN 094
Site Name: High Lodge
Report Number 2013/025
Planning Application No: N/A
Date of Fieldwork: 21st January – 27th February, 2013
Grid Reference: TL 810 851
Oasis Reference: suffolkc1-144708
Curatorial Officer: Rachael Monk
Project Officer: Rob Brooks and Simon Cass
Client/Funding Body: Forestry Commission
Client Reference: N/A

Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:

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

Disclaimer

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

Prepared By: Rob Brooks

Date: 06/03/2013

Approved By: Jo Caruth

Position: Senior Project Officer

Date: 06/03/2013

Signed:

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

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Summary




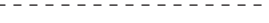







Monitoring of a soil strip for a new footpath and an excavation for a new soak-away was carried out on land immediately to the west and south of the Forestry Commission buildings at High Lodge, in Santon Downham, Suffolk. The works revealed no cut features, but in one area a preserved buried but undated soil horizon was recorded, and several Neolithic and Late Bronze Age/Iron Age struck flints were recovered.

Drawing Conventions

Plans

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

Sections

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

1. Introduction

One area for a new footpath and another for a soak-away were monitored surrounding the Forestry Commission buildings at High Lodge, Santon Downham, in Suffolk (Fig. 1). An archaeological monitoring was required for the project in order to record any archaeological features and recover any finds that could otherwise be uncovered or destroyed by the groundworks. The work was carried out to a Brief written by Rachael Monk (SCCAS Conservation Team, Appendix 1). The Forestry Commission funded the work that was carried out between 21st January and 27th February, 2013.

2. Geology and topography

The site's topography is fairly flat, positioned close to the 50m contour, with the overall area sloping gently down to the 45m contour to the south-east.

There is no recorded superficial geology for the site, although bedrock formations of Holywell Nodular Chalk and undifferentiated New Pit Chalk are listed (BGS, 2013). On site, the geology presented itself as pale yellow sand where exposed within a test sondage.

3. Archaeology and historical background

The site lies in an area of archaeological importance, with recorded instances of Mesolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman, medieval, post-medieval and undated activity listed on the Historic Environment Record (HER), all within a radius of 320m of the site (Fig. 1 and Table 1). Those closest to the monitoring groundworks include a scatter of Roman pottery (STN 002), Bronze Age features and finds (STN 068), as well as prehistoric ditches, with an oven/kiln and associated finds (STN 084) and a post-medieval bank and ditch (STN 067). The site itself is also in the grounds of a demolished inter-war labour camp that was excavated in 1991 (STN 029).

HER Reference	Description
STN 002	Scatter of Roman pottery sherds.
STN 008	Iron Age and Roman occupation sites
STN 016	Long narrow flint flakes and implements (possibly Mesolithic).
STN 029	Site of 1930s labour camp - 'High Lodge Hostel', for 'retraining' the unemployed in the 1930's.
STN 059	Undated irregular but roughly circular mound at junction of a series of recent forestry rides.
STN 061	Undated curving earthwork with double bank/s and outer ditches.
STN 062	Undated treble linear N-S banks & ditches.
STN 063	Undated east-west bank earthworks.
STN 064	Site of post-medieval Downham (High) Lodge.
STN 067	Post-medieval bank & ditch.
STN 068	Medieval-post-medieval bank & ditch.
STN 084	A prehistoric buried soil layer, three prehistoric ditches, a prehistoric oven/kiln and various undated ditches thought to relate to the medieval rabbit warren.
STN 085	Undated curving bank and outer ditch.
STN 087	Undated large linear earthwork bank, double in places.
STN Misc	Loose scatter of 6 struck flints - all black, probably post-medieval gunflint production waste.

Table 1. HER listings shown on Figure 1

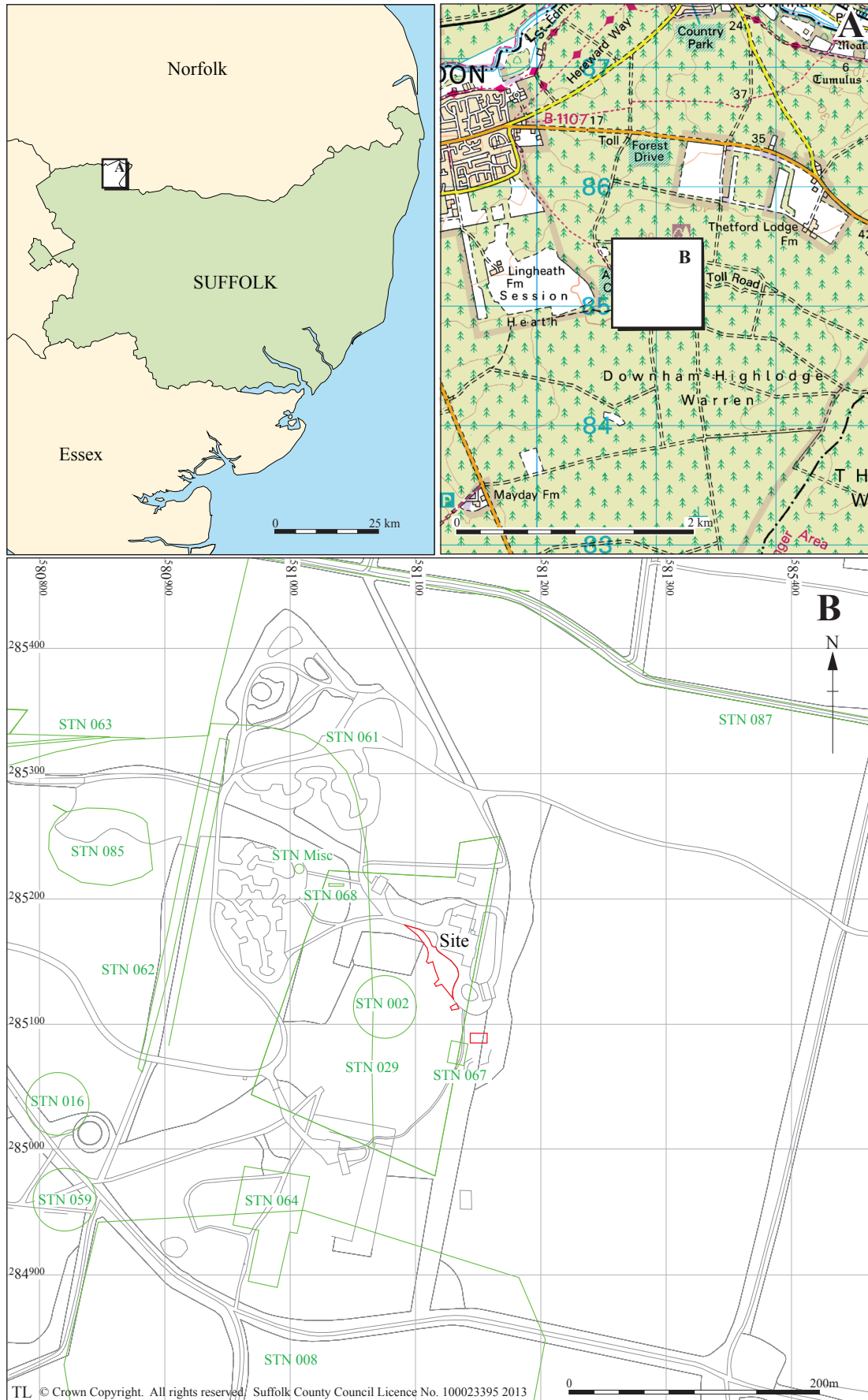


Figure 1. Location of site showing development outlines (red) and selected HER entries (green)

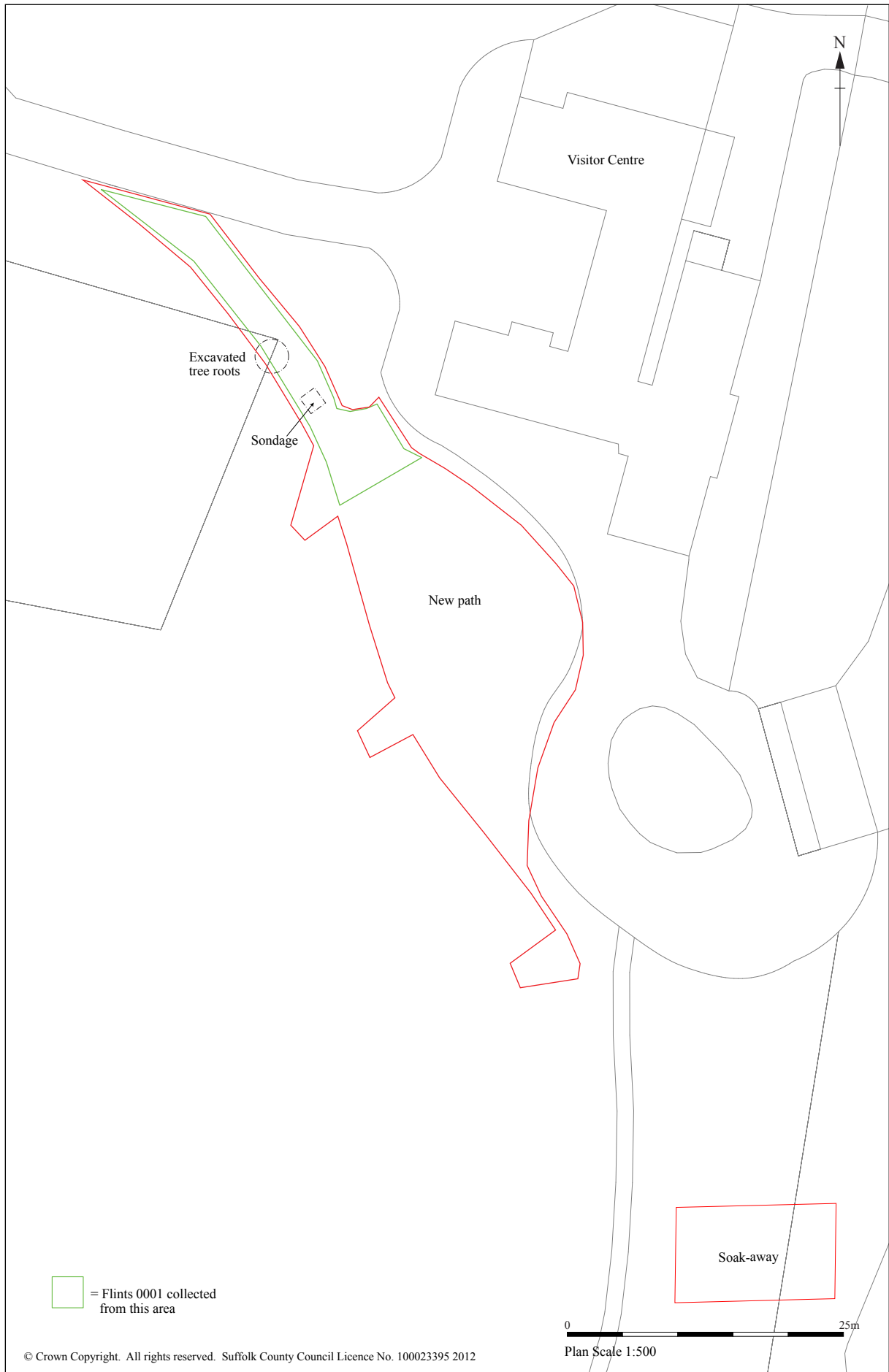


Figure 2. Site plan

4. Methodology

The groundworks were all excavated using a mechanical digger equipped with a toothed bucket to depths of 0.2-0.3m below ground level (BGL) for the new footpaths and up to 3m BGL for the soak-away. The works were monitored by the supervising archaeologist, with upcast spoil being examined for finds. A small sondage was machine excavated within the area of the new footpath in order to establish the site's stratigraphy.

Soil profiles were cleaned down by hand and recorded on an SCCAS *pro forma* trench sheet. Digital colour photographs were taken of the soil stratigraphy and the site in general at a resolution of 1000 x 1504 pixels and at 3216 x 4288 pixels. The site was recorded using a single context continuous numbering system (Appendix 2) and the two areas measured 327sqm in total. No environmental samples were taken.

Site records have been input into an MS Access database and recorded using the Historic Environment Record (HER) code STN 094. Digitised copies of profile and feature sections have been made. An OASIS form has been completed for the project (reference no. suffolkc1-144708, Appendix 3) and a digital copy of the report submitted for inclusion on the Archaeology Data Service database (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>). The site archive is kept in the main store of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service at Bury St Edmunds, under the HER code STN 094.

5. Results

5.1 Footpath monitoring

During the first monitoring of the new footpath, up to 0.3m of turf/topsoil and modern material consisting of redeposited chalk and aggregate was removed in order to lay the new surface. This revealed several areas of modern truncation, including wall footings, services, manholes and a large disturbance with modern bricks in it. These were all cut into orangish-brown and brownish-grey silty-sand, which appeared to be a buried post-medieval/modern topsoil layer that was heavily disturbed during the construction and demolition of the former labour camp.

The second phase of monitoring took place in the area in which several unstratified flints were found at the northern end of the new footpath (see 0001 on Fig. 2). A sondage was also excavated here in order to establish the full soil profile of this part of the site. 0.1-0.15 of turf/topsoil was recorded, overlying 0.2m of mid brownish-grey sand, frequently disturbed with orange sand patches and modern building rubble, recorded as 0002. Below this was layer 0003, which was leached pale grey silty-sand that was in places heavily root disturbed. This was interpreted as an old buried topsoil/Aeolian mixed deposit, or perhaps a Breckland/heathland type soil, which was 0.3m deep and overlaid the natural pale yellow sand geology. In this area, twelve fragments of unstratified worked flint were recovered from the general stripping of the topsoil and layer 0002, and from the excavation of a modern tree root system. Two of these fragments are thought to be Neolithic, whilst the rest are likely to be Late Bronze Age/Iron Age.

5.2 Soak-away monitoring

In the area of the soak-away the soil profile consisted of 0.05m of turf/topsoil overlying a layer of brownish-orange sand, which was somewhat disturbed and up to 0.3m deep. Underlying this was yellowish-orange sand geology. Several modern disturbances, including footings and services had truncated the area.

6. Finds

Andy Fawcett

6.1 Introduction

A small quantity of unstratified worked flint was recorded from context 0001 (12 fragments @ 719g). The flints were recovered over an area of approximately 135sqm. This report provides a brief summary of each flint and an overview of the assemblage as a whole.

6.2 Worked flint

Identified by Colin Pendleton

All of the flint fragments are unpatinated.

1. A large shatter piece with around twenty-five cortex remaining.
2. A heavily rolled flint nodule used as a flake core with one large fresh flake removed from it.
3. This is an irregular flint nodule utilised as a core. It has around forty percent cortex remaining and is largely a shatter piece which has occasionally been used for flake removal.
4. A thick flake with deep but crude secondary retouch. The dorsal face is all cortex and the function of the piece is unknown.
5. A large irregular flake of sub-triangular cross section which was probably largely for cortex removal from a core. The flint is hard hammer struck.
6. A crude irregular flake with limited edge retouch. The flake also has three notches and is hard hammer struck.
7. An irregular squat flake with a natural striking platform.
8. An irregular flake with a natural striking platform which is also sub-triangular in sub-section.
9. A small thin flake with limited edge retouch/use wear.
10. A thin flake with a hinge fracture and parallel flake/blade scars on the dorsal face
11. A blade with slight edge retouch on the distal face.
12. A snapped small blade with shallow retouch and notch on one edge.

6.3 Discussion of material evidence

The thin flake and two blade fragments (Nos. 10-12) are probably dated to the Neolithic period. However the remainder of the assemblage is crudely worked, and the presence of shatter pieces and simple cores suggest that these are dated to the Late Bronze Age/Iron Age.

7. Discussion

The monitoring has revealed that despite widespread truncation relating to the former labour camp and disturbance from tree roots across the site, a surviving subsoil or buried soil layer survives, recorded here as 0003. Underlying this, the natural geology also appears to be well preserved. These factors, along with the presence of several Neolithic and later prehistoric struck flints from a relatively small area tend to indicate that there may well be further preserved prehistoric features or later deposits surviving on the site.

8. Archive deposition

Paper archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

Digital archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Archive\Santon Downham\STN 094 Monitoring

Digital photographic archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Catalogues\Photos\HSA-HSZ\HSX 80-95

Finds and environmental archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds. Store Location: Parish box H/81/2

9. Acknowledgements

The monitoring of the first area of footpath and soak-away was carried out by Simon Cass, whilst the northern area of footpath was monitored by Rob Brooks. Project management was undertaken by Jo Caruth who also provided advice during the production of the report.

Post-excavation management was provided by Richenda Goffin. Finds processing was undertaken by Jonathan van Jennians. The finds report was produced by Andy Fawcett, with additional specialist advice provided by Colin Pendleton.

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

10. Bibliography

BGS, 2013, Information obtained from http://www.bgs.ac.uk/products/digital_maps/data_625k.html and reproduced with the permission of the British Geological Survey ©NERC. All rights Reserved



The Archaeological Service

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

Brief for Continuous Archaeological Recording

AT

High Lodge,
Santon Downham

PLANNING AUTHORITY:	N/A
PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:	N/A
HER NO. FOR THIS PROJECT:	To be arranged
GRID REFERENCE:	TL 810 851
DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL:	Creation of new desire lines and soakaway
CURRENT LAND USE:	Forest
THIS BRIEF ISSUED BY:	Rachael Monk Archaeological Officer Conservation Team Tel. : 01284 741230 E-mail: rachael.monk@suffolk.gov.uk
Date:	10 January 2013

Summary

- 1.1 The Forestry Commission has been advised that the proposed works will require a scheme of archaeological investigation.
- 1.2 The archaeological contractor must submit a copy of their Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) or Method Statement, based upon this brief of minimum requirements, to the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS/CT) for scrutiny; SCCAS/CT is the advisory body to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) on archaeological issues.
- 1.3 The WSI should be approved before costs are agreed with the commissioning client, in line with Institute for Archaeologists' guidance. Failure to do so could result in additional and unanticipated costs.
- 1.4 The WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether archaeological requirements will be adequately met.

Archaeological Background

- 2.1 The above proposal lies within an area of archaeological interest recorded in the County Historic Environment Record. Finds of Iron Age pottery (STN 029) were uncovered within the proposed development area, which is also situated close to a findspot of Roman pottery (STN 002) and a medieval bank and ditch (STN 068). As a result there is high potential for encountering heritage assets of archaeological interest in this area.

Planning Background

- 3.1 There is high potential for archaeological deposits to be disturbed by this development. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 3.2.1 It has been advised that an agreed programme of work should take place in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (Paragraph 141), to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets (that might be present at this location) before they are damaged or destroyed.

Requirement for Archaeological Investigation

- 4.1 The significant archaeologically damaging activity in this proposal will be the topsoil stripping and groundworks carried out during the creation of new desire lines and the construction of the soakaway. Assessment of the available archaeological evidence indicates that the area affected by the development can be adequately recorded by continuous archaeological monitoring and recording during all groundworks.
- 4.2 Any ground works, and also the upcast soil, are to be closely monitored during and after excavation by the archaeological contractor in order to ensure no damage occurs any heritage assets. Adequate time is to be allowed for archaeological recording of archaeological deposits during excavation, and of soil sections following excavation.
- 4.3 The archaeological investigation should provide a record of archaeological deposits which are damaged or removed by any development [including services and landscaping] permitted by the current planning consent. Opportunity must be given to the archaeological contractor to hand excavate and record any archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations.
- 4.4 The method and form of development should be also monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based.
- 4.5 If unexpected remains are encountered SCCAS/CT must be informed immediately. Amendments to this brief may be required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

Arrangements for Archaeological Investigation

- 5.1 All arrangements for the excavation of the site, the timing of the work and access to the site, are to be defined and negotiated by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.
- 5.2.1 The project manager must also carry out a risk assessment and ensure that all potential risks are minimised, before commencing the fieldwork. The responsibility for identifying any constraints on fieldwork (e.g. designated status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites and ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor.

Reporting and Archival Requirements

- 6.1 The project manager must consult the Suffolk HER Officer to obtain an event number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.
- 6.2 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared and must be adequate to perform the function of a final archive for deposition in the Archaeological Service's Store or in a suitable museum in Suffolk.
- 6.3 It is expected that the landowner will deposit the full site archive, and transfer title to, the Archaeological Service or the designated Suffolk museum, and this should be agreed before the fieldwork commences. The intended depository should be stated in the WSI, for approval.
- 6.4 The project manager should consult the intended archive depository before the archive is prepared regarding the specific requirements for the archive deposition and curation (including the digital archive), and regarding any specific cost implications of deposition.
- 6.5 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service, or similar digital archive repository, and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure proper deposition (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>).
- 6.6 A report on the fieldwork and archive, consistent with the principles of *MAP2*, must be provided. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 6.7 An unbound hardcopy of the report, clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated. Following acceptance, a single hard copy and also a .pdf digital copy should be presented to the Suffolk HER.
- 6.8 Where appropriate, a digital vector plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the Suffolk HER.

- 6.9 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. When the project is completed, all parts of the OASIS online form must be completed and a copy must be included in the final report and also with the site archive. A .pdf version of the entire report should be uploaded where positive results have been obtained.
- 6.10 Where positive results are drawn from a project, a summary report must be prepared, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT, by the end of the calendar year in which the work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 6.11 When no significant features or finds are found, a short report will be sufficient with the following information: grid ref., parish, address, planning application number and type of development, date(s) of visit(s), methodology, plan showing areas observed in relation to ground disturbance/proposed development, depth of ground disturbance in each area, depth of topsoil and its profile over natural in each area, observations as to land use history (truncation etc), recorder and organisation, date of report.
- 6.12 This brief remains valid for 12 months. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the brief may need to be revised and re-issued to take account of new discoveries, changes in policy and techniques.

Standards and Guidance

Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.

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

Notes

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

Appendix 2. Context list

Context No	Feature No	Grid Sq.	Feature Type	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Small Finds	Cuts	Cut by	Over	Under	Finds	Sample	Group No	Phase	Spotdate
0001			Finds	Unstratified finds recovered from removal of tree root system and 0.2m stripping of NW area of new footpath. Root system penetrated to natural. Stripping of footpath only revealed topsoil and disturbed deposit 0002. Prehistoric flint collection.									Yes	No			
0002			Layer	Mid brownish-grey sand, frequently disturbed with modern material (bricks, concrete lumps) and by root disturbance. Redeposited chalk and orange sand patches also present - presumably from modern disturbance. Friable compaction. Diffuse horizon clarity with 0003. Full extent revealed in test sondage.			0.2				0003		No	No			
0003			Layer	Buried disturbed topsoil underlying modern topsoil/turf. Pale grey silty-sand. Frequently root disturbed. Friable compaction. Rare small stone inclusions, sporadically distributed throughout material. Possibly a very old buried topsoil/aeolian deposit, or perhaps a breckland/heathland type soil.			0.3					0002	No	No			

Appendix 3. OASIS form

OASIS ID: suffolkc1-144708

Project details

Project name	STN 094 High Lodge new footpaths and soak-away
Short description of the project	Monitoring of a soil strip for a new footpath and an excavation for a new soak-away was carried out on land immediately to the west and south of the Forestry Commission buildings at High Lodge, in Santon Downham, Suffolk. The works revealed no cut features, but in one area a preserved buried but undated soil horizon was recorded, and several Neolithic and Late Bronze Age/Iron Age struck flints were recovered.
Project dates	Start: 21-01-2013 End: 27-02-2013
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	STN 094 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	STN 094 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	2013/025 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Monument type	LAYER Uncertain
Significant Finds	LITHIC IMPLEMENTS Neolithic
Significant Finds	LITHIC IMPLEMENTS Iron Age
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK FOREST HEATH SANTON DOWNHAM STN 094 High Lodge footpaths and soak-away monitoring
Postcode	IP27 0AF
Study area	327.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 8113 8514 52 0 52 26 01 N 000 39 53 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	Rachael Monk
Project director/manager	Jo Caruth
Project supervisor	Rob Brooks
Type of sponsor/funding body	Government body
Name of sponsor/funding body	Forestry Commission

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Physical Archive ID	H/81/2
Physical Contents	"Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Digital Archive ID	STN 094
Digital Contents	"Worked stone/lithics","other"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Paper Archive ID	STN 094
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	High Lodge, Santon Downham, STN 094, Archaeological Monitoring Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Brooks, R.
Other bibliographic details	SCCAS Report No. 2013/025
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	SCCAS
Place of issue or publication	Bury St Edmunds
Description	A4, comb bound, white card covers, in colour, with three appendices. Also

available as a pdf.

Entered by Rob Brooks (rob.brooks@suffolk.gov.uk)

Entered on 5 March 2013

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Wednesday 9 May 2012
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