

# Church Field, Rede RDE 016

### **Archaeological Monitoring Report**

SCCAS Report No. 2013/055 Client: Alistair Smith

Author: Andrew Tester

June 2013

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## Church Field, Rede RDE 016

Archaeological Monitoring Report

SCCAS Report No. 2013/055

Author: Andrew Tester

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Editor: Richenda Goffin Report Date: June 2013

### **HER Information**

Site Code:		RDE 016		
Site Name:		Church Field		
Report Num	ber	2013/055		
Planning Ap	pplication No:	SE/12/1316/FUL		
Date of Field	dwork:	March 2013		
Grid Refere	nce:	TL 8047 5598		
Oasis Refer	ence:	1-152008		
Curatorial O	Officer:	Abby Antrobus		
Project Officer: Andrew Tester				
Client/Fundi	ing Body:	Alistair Smith		
Client Refer	ence:	QB13-027		
	ubmitted to Archaeologica ac.uk/catalogue/library/g			
Projects Team Authority and its Council's archa	expressed in this report at alone. Ultimately the nee s Archaeological Advisor deological contracting ser	bout the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field ed for further work will be determined by the Local Planning as when a planning application is registered. Suffolk County vices cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to y take a different view to that expressed in the report.		
Prepared By: Date:	********			
Approved By: Position:	******			
Date:	*********			
Signed:	******	****		
-				

### Contents

Sum	mary				
Drav	ving Conve	entions			
1.	Introduct	ion	4		
2.	Geology	and topography	4		
3.					
4.	Methodo	logy	8		
<b>5.</b> Build	Results		<b>9</b> 9		
Build	ding 2		9		
Gara	age 1		10		
6.	Finds evi	idence	13		
7.	General of	discussion	13		
8. Archive deposition 14					
9.	Acknowle	edgements	14		
10.	Bibliogra	phy	14		
List	of Figures	5			
Figu	re 2. Site p	ocation (red) with HER entries (green) plan with Sections A and B plotted. on drawings	5 6 7		
List	of Plates				
Plate stan Plate	e 2 Brown odding remaile 3 Pit 0022	020 facing south 1m scale clay fill of ditch 0020 visible in the area between Buildings 1 and ns are part of the former garage) facing east. The scale is 1m. 2 facing east, also showing site strip. Scale 1m e footing with hedge, and ditch beyond to the right of the picture	11 12		
List	of Append	dices			
Appe	endix 1. endix 2. endix 3.	Brief and specification Context List Bulk Finds			

### Summary

An archaeological monitoring was carried out during the excavation of footings for two houses at Church Field, Rede. The excavations revealed a ditch parallel to the main road, suggestive of a medieval boundary and possible drainage ditch behind housing plots. There were also two minor east-west ditches, which also appeared in the evaluation where they were found to be medieval, and several pits. These were all quite similar in general appearance, although varying in size and may have been close in date. It is likely that they were dug for the extraction of clay for brick making, which is historically recorded in the area. Only one of the pits offered dating evidence suggesting they were either late medieval, or post-medieval, the latter being the more likely.

### 1. Introduction

An archaeological monitoring was carried out during the groundworks associated with the construction of two houses with garages at Church Field, Rede. The monitoring was a condition on planning application SE/12/1316/FUL and the work was carried out according to a Brief and Specification prepared by Dr Abby Antrobus of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (Appendix 1). The work took place during March 2013.

### 2. Geology and topography

The site is on slightly undulating ground at a height of *c*. 116.5m OD. The superficial geology for the site consists of Lowestoft formation diamicton clay deposits, overlying a bedrock formation of Crag group sand (BGS, 2013). The natural on site was consistently grey 'boulder clay' with varying levels of chalk inclusions.

### 3. Archaeology and historical background

This section is taken from the evaluation report (Brooks 2013). The site lies close to the medieval core of the village, positioned immediately north of the medieval church of All Saints (RDE 003, Fig. 1), 130m north-east of the medieval 'Reed Green' mentioned on Hodskinson's 1783 map of Suffolk (RDE 005), which in turn is immediately east of a medieval moated enclosure (RDE 014). Medieval pottery has also been found 270m to the east of the site (BKY Misc). Hodskinson's map also indicates the presence of 'Reed Kiln' some distance to the north of the site. There is no evidence of any Roman or pre-Roman activity close to the site.

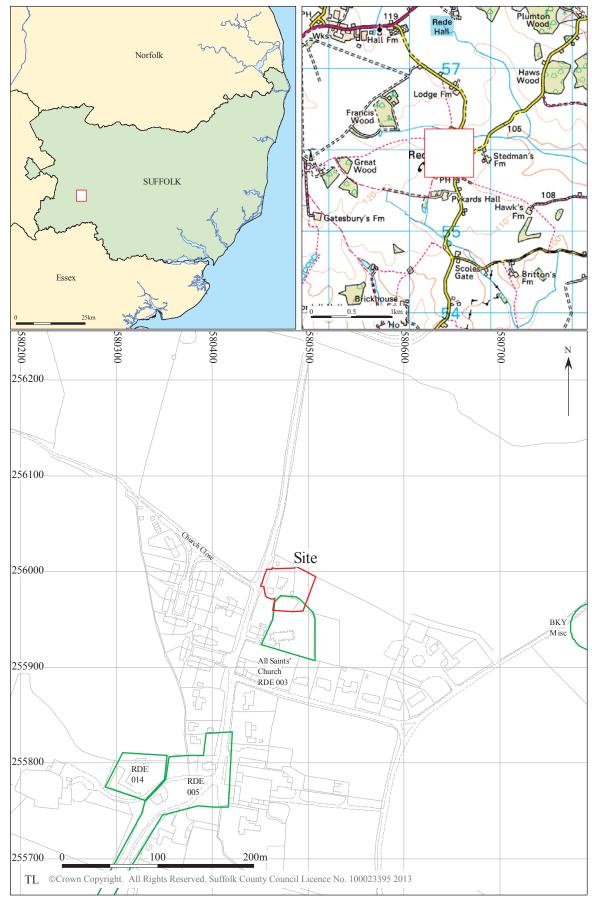


Figure 1. Site location (red) with HER entries (green)

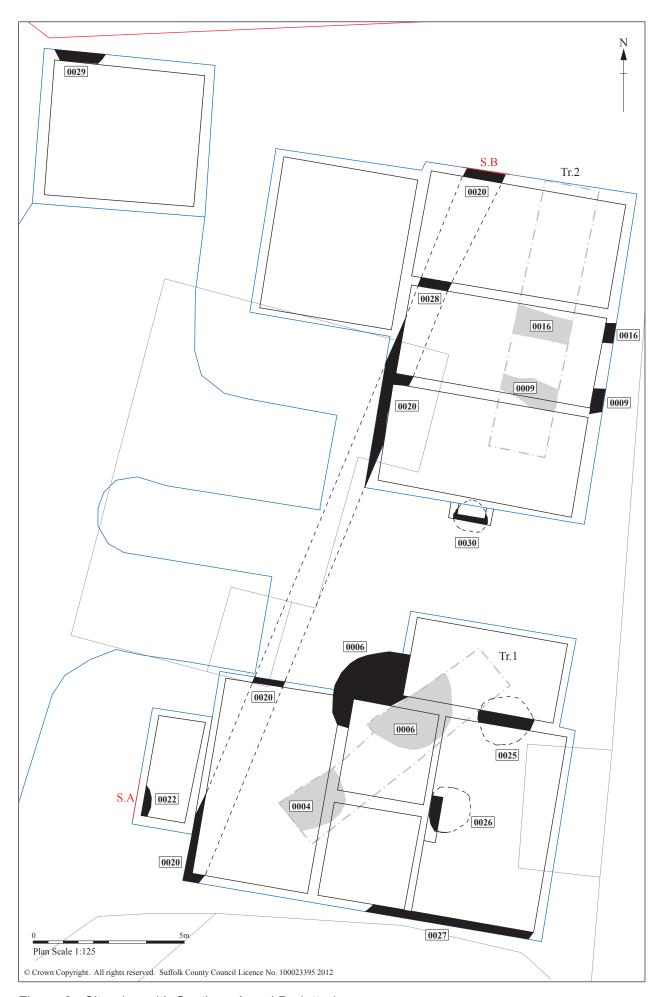


Figure 2. Site plan with Sections A and B plotted

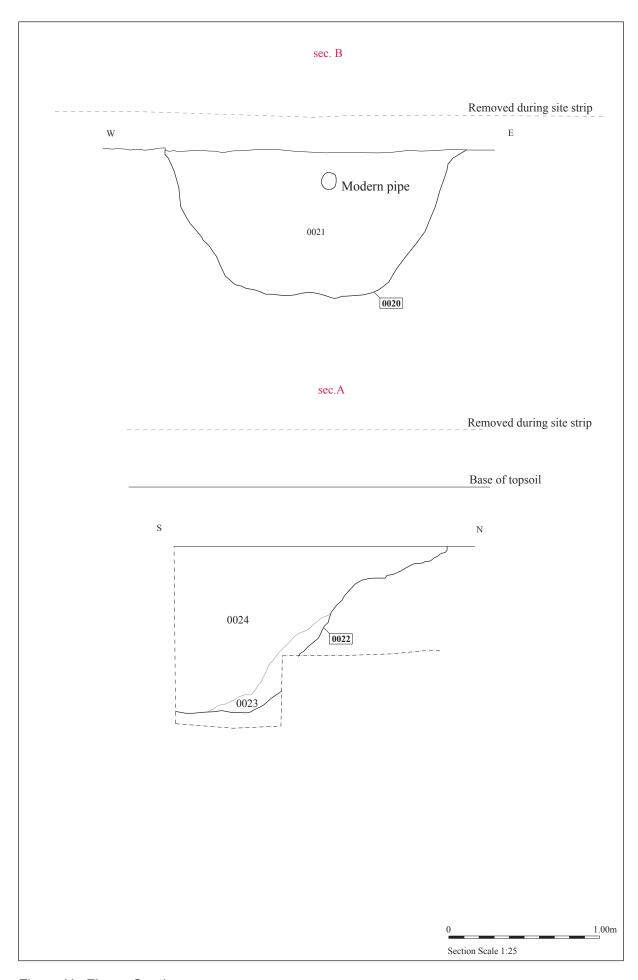


Figure X. Figure Caption

### 4. Methodology

Several visits were made to the site during the excavation of footing trenches; the topsoil had been stripped from the site and some subsoil removed in order to create a level platform, up to 0.8m was removed from the south-west corner. Footings for the previous garage had not been grubbed out. Two sections were recorded and these were of ditch 0020 and pit 0022 (which produced finds). With the exception of the two ditches first recorded in the evaluation, the remaining features were pits of which representative sections were included in the evaluation report. A single context recording system was employed and digital photographs taken of the work.

Approximately 80% of the footings were monitored during excavation and recorded photographically (Fig. 2). Footing trenches for the southern garage were not seen because the new build was to be on a similar footprint.

### 5. Results

### **Building 1**

(Northern building)

The footings varied between approximately 1m and 2m in depth below the already stripped topsoil (c. 0.3 - 4m). On site the ground was made of grey boulder clay with varying amounts of chalk nodules. A north – south ditch was recorded in several of the footings (0020, 0028 and 0020). It was fairly steep-sided and filled with clay/brown silt/clay (Section B). This ditch was traced across the site appearing in the western end of Building 2, (PLs.1-2)). A single sherd of pottery was recovered from the fill, 0021, which is dated to the Roman period.

Along the eastern footing the base of two shallow ditches could be seen in section. These align with ditches 0009 and 0016 that were identified and hand excavated in the evaluation. A further small pit was located in the southern fire place extension to the site (0030). It was up to 0.7m deep (plate 3). Between Buildings 1 and 2 the course of ditch 0020 could be traced (PL. 3).

### **Building 2**

(Southern building)

Ditch 0020 continued through the south-west corner of Building 2. A probable pit, 0022, was sampled with finds retrieved from dark grey clay fill, 0023, which was beneath an homogenous fill of mid brown silt 0024. From the stripped surface (which was *c*.0.8m below previous ground levels, it was *c*.1.1m deep and at least 2m wide and is illustrated as section A. The finds consisted of a fragment of roof tile, which is probably post-medieval and rib and vertebrae fragments from a lamb (these were found in the face of the pit section and it is suggested that they may have been from a complete burial).

A large pit straddled a junction of footings, which was sampled during the evaluation as 0006. It was c.1.2m deep and c.3.5m wide with steep sides. Pit 0025 was c.1.5m wide and c.1m deep with fairly straight sides and a homogenous grey clay fill. A shallow pit, 0026 was c.1m wide and c.0.5m deep with a grey brown silt fill. The site was disturbed

at the south-east corner where the footing impinged slightly on the edge of a recently backfilled pond, 0027.

### Garage 1

The north wall footing was *c*.2m deep (the depth of trench was mitigation for the hedge boundary immediately adjoining the trench. There was an irregular shaped disturbance at the north-east corner, 0029, .which is attributed to root penetration from the adjoining hedge. No features were observed in the remainder of the trench (PL 4).



Plate 1. Ditch 0020 facing south, 1m scale



Plate 2 Brown clay fill of ditch 0020 visible in the area between Buildings 1 and 2 (the standing remains are part of the former garage) facing east. The scale is 1m.



Plate 3. Pit 0022 facing east, also showing site strip. Scale 1m



Plate 4. Garage footing with hedge and ditch beyond to the right of the picture (north)

### 6. Finds evidence

Andy Fawcett

A very small collection of finds were recovered from this site.

Ditch fill 0021: A single abraded body sherd of pottery (11g) was found in this feature. It had a fine reduced fabric which contains abundant ill sorted quartz, silver mica, sparse fine black ore and rare calcitic like irregular voids. The fineness of the fabric and the abundance of silver mica suggest that it is dated to the Roman period (GMG).

Pit fill 0023: One abraded fragment of roof tile (24g). The fragment is hard, fully oxidised and contains common ferrous inclusions (msfe). The fabric is typical of the post-medieval period, although some examples can be dated from the late medieval period onwards. This feature also produced fourteen small burnt pieces of animal bone (49g). The assemblage consists mainly of rib and vertebrae fragments which all appear to be from a juvenile sheep as many of the vertebrae pieces are unfused (C. Tester pers.comm).

### 7. General discussion

The monitoring has revealed further evidence for the various pits identified during the evaluation, particularly 0006, which was the largest. They shared common characteristics, generally being steep-sided with an homogenous fill of brown/grey clay. A dark layer within pit 0022, which may have been topsoil of weed growth within an open feature, produced a tile fragment that is likely to be post-medieval. There is a lack of evidence for function; these pits contained little rubbish and the relative depth into the natural clay leads to the suggestion that they were for clay extraction, which could have been used for walling, mixed with horsehair and straw perhaps, or in hearths but the clay is more likely to have been for brick making, as suggested in the evaluation report (Brookes 2013). The north to south ditch 0020 runs parallel to the road and, notwithstanding the Roman potsherd, is likely to be a medieval boundary at the back of

plots facing onto the main street. It is suggested that the sherd of Roman pottery is a residual find having fallen in from the surrounding field. It could represent manuring or be evidence of settlement during the Roman period, although a single sherd is insufficient evidence from which to generalise with any confidence (a single Roman roof tile fragment was found during the evaluation). There was no evidence of medieval occupation towards the Street frontage from the evaluation.

### 8. Archive deposition

Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

Digital archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\

Archive\Rede\RDE 016 Monitoring.

Digital photographic archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\

Archaeology\Catalogues\Photos.

Finds and environmental archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

### 9. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork and report writing was carried out by Andrew Tester. Finds processing and analysis was undertaken by Andy Fawcett who also produced the specialist finds report, Cathy Tester identified the animal bone. The report illustrations were created by Gemma Adams and the report was edited by Richenda Goffin.

### 10. Bibliography

Brooks, R., 2013, *Evaluation at Church Field, Rede*, RDE 016 Archaeological Evaluation Report, SCCAS Report2013/009

BGS, 2013, Information obtained from <a href="http://www.bgs.ac.uk/products/digital maps/data\_625k.html">http://www.bgs.ac.uk/products/digital maps/data\_625k.html</a> 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

### APPENDIX 1 Brief for Continuous Archaeological Recording

ΑT

### CHURCH FIELD, REDE, SUFFOLK

PLANNING AUTHORITY: St Edmundsbury Borough Council

PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER: SE/12/1316

SHER NO. FOR THIS PROJECT: RDE 016

GRID REFERENCE: TL 804 559

**DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL:** Erection of two dwellings/garage/ access

following demolition of existing dwelling.

**AREA:** 0.3 ha

CURRENT LAND USE: House and garden

THIS BRIEF ISSUED BY: Abby Antrobus

Assistant Archaeological Officer

Conservation Team Tel: 01284 741231

E-mail: abby.antrobus@suffolk.gov.uk

Date: 08 February 2013

### **Summary**

1.1 Planning permission has been granted with the following condition relating to archaeological investigation:

'No development shall take place until a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.'

1.2 The archaeological contractor must submit a copy of their Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) or Method Statement, based upon this brief of minimum requirements, to the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS/CT) for scr utiny; 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 commis sioning client, in line with Institute for Archaeologists' guidance. Failure to do so could result in additional and unanticipated costs.
- 1.4 Following acceptance, SCCAS/CT will advise the LPA the at an appropriate scheme of work is in place, and recommend partial discharge of the condition to allow work to commence. The WSI, however, is not a sufficient basis for the full discharge of the planning condition relating to archaeological investigation. Only the full im plementation of the scheme, both completioen of fieldwork and reporting, will enable SCCAS/CT to advise the LPA that the condition has been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged.
- 1.5 The WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met.

### Archaeological Background

2.1 The site h as been subject to archaeological evaluation (SCCAS report 2013/009, County Historic Environment Record RDE 016). The three tr enches revealed three ditches and two pits well preser ved between different levels of topsoil, with one of the ditches producing 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century pottery, animal bone, fired clay and an environmental sample that produced pre served wheat which indicated medieval sett lement or acti vity in the immedi ate vicinity. The evaluation has demonstrated that there is potential for archaeological d eposits relating particularly to medieval activity to be disturbed by this development. Ground preparation for the driveway is likely to involve a topsoil strip: the main impact of development relates to the footings and foundations of the houses and garages.

### Planning Background

- 3.1 There is high potential for archaeological de posits to be disturbed by this development. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 3.2 The Planning Authority has been advised that any consent sho uld be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins in accordance with paragraph 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* to record and ad vance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets (t hat might be present at this locat ion) before they are damaged or destroyed.

### Requirement for Archaeological Investigation

- 4.1 Assessment of the available archa eological 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 archa eological contractor in order to ensure no damage occurs any heritage assets. Adequate time is to be allowed for archaeological recording of archaeological dep osits 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 contract or 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 The project manager must also carry out a risk assessment and ensure that all potential risks are m inimised, before com mencing 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 con siderations 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 uniquue 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 de position 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.
- 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 wit h the principles of *MoRPHE*, 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 Framewo rk (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3, 8 and 24, 1997, 2000 and 2011).

- 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.
- At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <a href="http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/">http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/</a> 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.
- 6.10 Where positive results are drawn from a project, a summary report must be prepared, in the esta blished 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.
- When no significant features or finds are found, a short report will be sufficient with the following infor mation: 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 guidan ce in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

### Notes

The Institute of Archaeologists maintains a list of registered archaeological contractors (<a href="www.archaeologists.net">www.archaeologists.net</a> or 0118 3 78 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.

# Page 1 of 3

01 May 2013

# Appendix 2 - Context List

Context No		Feature No Feature Type	Description/Interpretation	Finds O	Overall Date Env. Sample Trench
0001		Topsoil Layer	Heavily root disturbed and redeposited clay. Covers all site, ranging in depth from 0.2-0.4m Topsoil	o N	No
0002		Subsoil Layer	Orange and brownish grey compact silty sandy clay. Frequent chalk inclusions. Appears to seal features in trench 1. Consistant layer in all 3 trenches. Subsoil.	o N	ON
0003	0004	Pit Fill	Mid greeny greyish brown compact silty clay. Occasional small angular and sub-angular flints, rare chalk flecks and moderate orange sandy flecks. Horizon clear.	0 N	No
0004	0004	Pit Cut	Shape in plan unclear as feature runs under baulk to the south and west. Also edges in plan are not clear. Profile not fully excvated but has very steep straight sides 80-90 degrees. Appears to be sealed by layer 0002. Filled by 0003 and 0015.  Probable cut of large pit, possible that it is a number of smaller pits.	o Z	ON
0000	9000	Pit Fill	Mid orange brownish grey firm-compact silty sandy clay. Occasional small sub-ang and rnd flints and occasional chalk flecks. Horizon clear. Fill of pit.	o N	No L
9000	9000	Pit Cut	Large possible semi-circle in plan, edges were unclear until excavation. Runs under limit of excavation to the west. Profile has a break of slope c.45-60 degrees, concave sides leading to a flat area then a further sharp break of slope, again concave and a flat base. Filled by 0005, 0011, 0012 and 0013. Sealed by 0002.	o N	NO C
2000	2000	Ditch Cut	Linear in plan, aligned N-S. Pofile is not complete as exits trench to the west, break of slope c.50 degrees, concave sides. Filled by 0008. Cut of ditch, probably road drainage ditch that has been back filled for current driveway.	8	οN
8000	2000	Ditch Fill	Mid orange-grey firm-compacted silty clay. Root disturbed. Frequent chalk nodules. Diffuse horizon.	Yes	ο O

Context No		Feature No Feature Type	Description/Interpretation	Finds Overall Date E	Env. Sample Trench	Trench
6000	6000	Ditch Cut	Linear cut in plan, aligned E-W. 70° slightly concave sides with rapidly curving break of slope to thin, slightly concave base.  Ditch cut. Subtly different alignment to [0016].	No	O <sub>N</sub>	2
0010	6000	Ditch Fill	Orange and grey mottled clay of a firm compaction, with common flints and occasional charcoal flecks. Root disturbed and with clear to diffuse horizon clarity. Single fill of cut.	Yes	°2	8
0011	9000	Pit Fill	Mid greenish-orangish-brown firm silty clay. Moderate small to medium rounded and angular flints, moderate small chalk. Horizon clear. Fill of pit.	ON	0 Z	~
0012	9000	Pit Fill	Mid greenish grey brown firm silty clay. Moderate chalk flecks. Horizon clear. Fill of pit.	ON	o <sub>N</sub>	<del>-</del>
0013	9000	Pit Fill	Mid-dark greyish brown compact silty clay. Occasional chalk flecks. Horizon clear. Fill of pit.	ON	o Z	<del>-</del>
0014		buried topsoil Layer	Mid orange greyish brown firm silty clay. Contains a layer of small chalk lumps and a ceramic pipe. Buried topsoil.	No.	<sup>O</sup> Z	<del>-</del>
0015	0004	Pit Fill	Dark brownish grey silty clay. Frequent chalk flecks and small nodules. Horizon not seen. Rare CBM. Fill of pit.	Yes	o Z	<del>-</del>
0016	0016	Ditch Cut	Linear cut in plan, aligned E-W. 60 degree southern edge, slightly concave. Undear northern edge - stepped? Concave base.	O <sub>N</sub>	o <sub>N</sub>	7
0017	0016	Ditch Fill	Orangish grey clay of a firm compaction. Very occasional charcoal flecks. Common small to large flints. Root disturbed and clear to diffuse horizon clarity. Single fill of ditch.  Ditch fill largely naturally derived.	Yes	<u>0</u>	7
0018	0019	Ditch Fill	Mid brownish grey compact silty clay. Horizon clear. Occasional chalk flecks and moderate small flints.	No	O <sub>Z</sub>	

Context No		Feature No Feature Type	Description/Interpretation	Finds Overall Date Er	Env. Sample Trench	rench
0019	0018	Ditch Cut	Only witnessed in section, believed to be continuation of ditch 0016 seen in trench excavated by engineer.  Appears to have a "U" shaped profile although not fully excavated.  Cut of ditch.	No	o Z	
0020	0020	Ditch Cut	wide deep ditch running across big 1 during mon	ON	No	monitori
0021	0020	Ditch Fill	Mid brown silt with some iron concretions in base.	Yes	o N	
0022	0022	Pit Cut	round deep pit	ON	o N	
0023	0022	Pit Fill	darker clay silt around sides of featurebelow 0024	Yes	o Z	
0024	0022	Pit Fill	main fill above 0023	ON	o <sub>N</sub>	
0025	0025	Pit cut and fill	3.5m wide pit grey brown clay/silt fill	No	S S	
0026	0026	Pit cut and fill	Shallow pit c.0.6 deep with grey brown clay/silt fill	No	S S	
0027	0027	Pit cut and fill	Black silt, sloping outer edge of recently filled pond	No	S S	
0028	0028	Pit cut and fill		No	S S	
0029	0029	Bioturbation Other	Area of brown clay within grey boulder clay caused by adjoining hedge caused by tree action	ON.	0 N	

# Appendix 3 Bulk Find



# Archaeological services Field Projects Team

### Delivering a full range of archaeological services

- Desk-based assessments and advice
- Site investigation
- Outreach and educational resources
- Historic Building Recording
- Environmental processing
- Finds analysis and photography
- Graphics design and illustration

### Contact:

### Rhodri Gardner

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