

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

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**Site B, Suffolk Business Park, Bedingfield Way, Bury  
St Edmunds  
RGH 049**

**and**

**Site B1, Suffolk Business Park, Bedingfield Way, Bury  
St Edmunds  
RGH 050**

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATIONS, 2006  
(Planning app. nos. SE/05/02411 and SE/05/02428)

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Field Team

Suffolk C.C. Archaeological Service

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## List of Contributors

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## Acknowledgements

This project was funded by Bloor Homes (RGH 049) and Marriott Motor Group Ltd. (RGH 050) and the archaeological work was specified and monitored by Dr. Jess Tipper (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team).

The fieldwork was conducted by John Duffy, Mike Green, Nick Taylor and Jonathan Van Jennians, all from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

The project was managed by David Gill, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

The plant macrofossil analysis and report was conducted by Val Fryer and the report formatted for inclusion by Cathy Tester. Post excavation assistance was provided by Gemma Adams, who also prepared the drawings for Figures 3, 4, 6 and 7.

## Summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken across two development sites, Sites B and B1, Suffolk Business Park, Bedingfield Way. The evaluation was located near areas of dispersed prehistoric occupation and to the east of the medieval grange, Eldohouse Farm. A total of nineteen trenches were excavated which produced evidence of a heavily disturbed landscape. Three undated charcoal filled pits were identified, similar to others identified in the vicinity, and were thought to be associated with the former airfield and are possibly the remains of fog lifters.

## SMR information

Planning application no.	RGH 049 – SE/05/02411	RGH 050 – SE/05/02428
Date of fieldwork:	March 2006	March 2006
Grid Reference:	RGH 049 – TL 88136408	RGH 050 – TL 88286406
Funding body:	Bloor Homes	Marriott Motor Group Ltd.
Oasis reference	suffolkc1-18580	suffolkc1-18581

## Introduction

Archaeological evaluation was undertaken on two sites located at the eastern end of Bedingfield Way, Bury St Edmunds. The first site evaluated was Site B (RGH 049) which was funded by Bloor Homes and the second area, Site B1 (RGH 050) was funded by Marriott Motor Group Ltd. The work was conducted following the brief and specification for each site prepared by Dr. Jess Tipper (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team) (Appendices 1 and 2).

The area of the evaluation was on the edge of the area occupied by the former Rougham airfield used extensively during World War Two and was later reclaimed as farmland. Until recently the site was occupied by two farm buildings with associated concrete roads, which appear to be residual airfield features. The buildings were demolished before the evaluation took place and some new roads had been laid out. There also appeared to have been some landscaping of the area as no evidence for any of these structures remained visible.

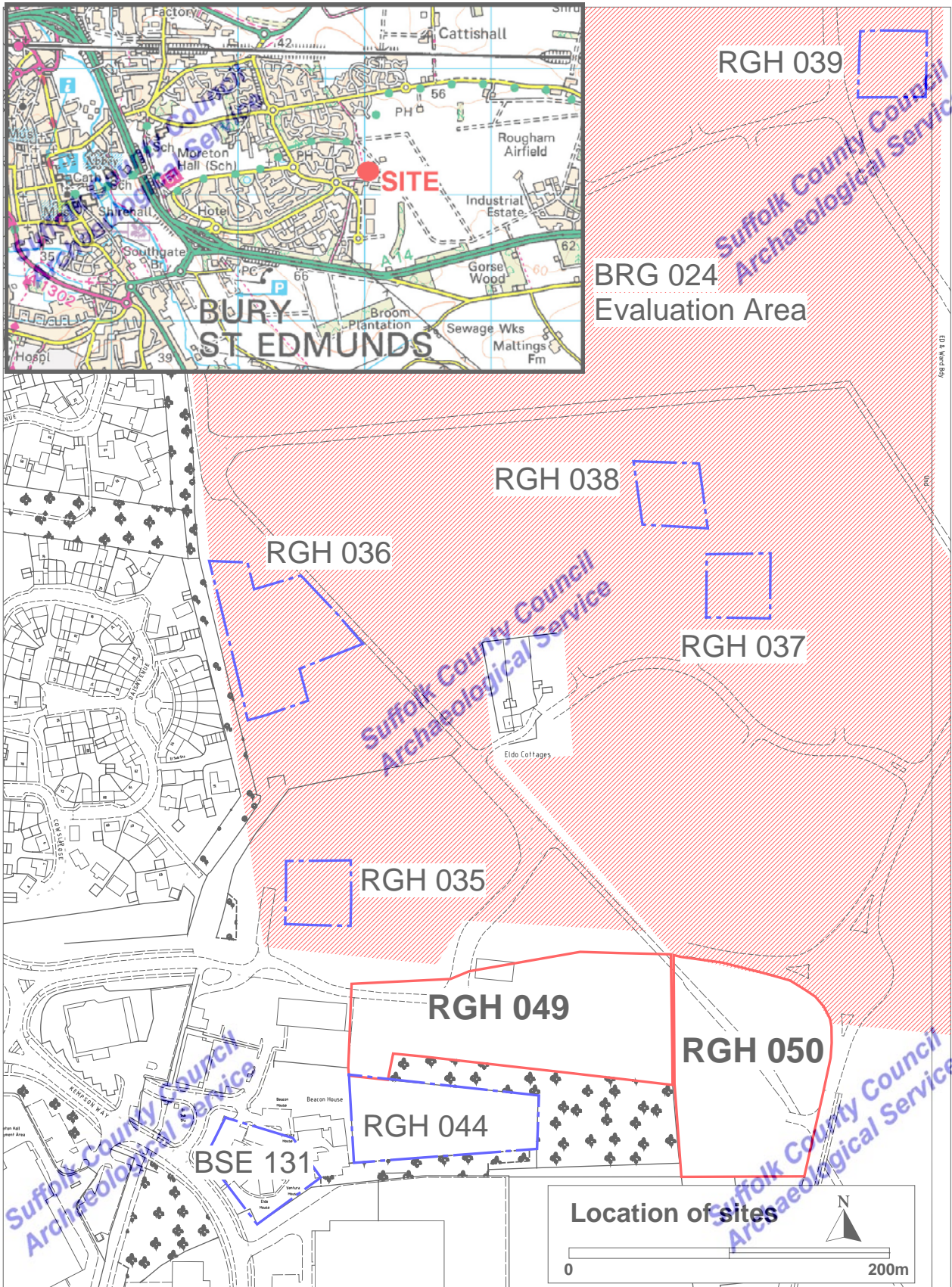
The development areas were located to the south of dispersed prehistoric occupation identified during archaeological evaluation (BRG 024 – Finch 1999) and excavation (BRG 035-039 – Craven forthcoming) (Figure 1). Further prehistoric occupation deposits were identified during the evaluation and subsequent excavation of the area immediately to the south (RGH 044 – Atfield forthcoming) (Figure 1). To the west of the evaluation area was the site of the medieval grange and post-medieval farm, Eldohouse Farm (BSE 131 – Gill 2003) (Figure 1). However, the extent of the farm occupation and main activity areas did not appear to extend as far as this development site.

## Methodology

The trenches were excavated using a tracked 360 degree machine fitted with a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket. Trenches were machine excavated through build-up layers and any archaeological features were cleaned and excavated by hand. The trenches were all excavated down to the underlying natural subsoil.

All trenches were photographed and sections were drawn at 1:20. All features were recorded in plan and section where appropriate at a scale of 1:20. Each archaeological context was given a unique context number.

The full site archive is kept at the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Store, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds under the codes RGH 049 and RGH 050.



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Figure 1. Site location

# Results

## RGH 049

### Introduction

Thirteen trenches were excavated, all onto an orange sand and clay natural, which varied across site in proportion of sand and clay. The site was 1.3 hectares and the trenches were excavated to a total length of 428m. A plan of the trenches has been presented in Figure 2 and a representative profile from each trench is shown in Figure 3.

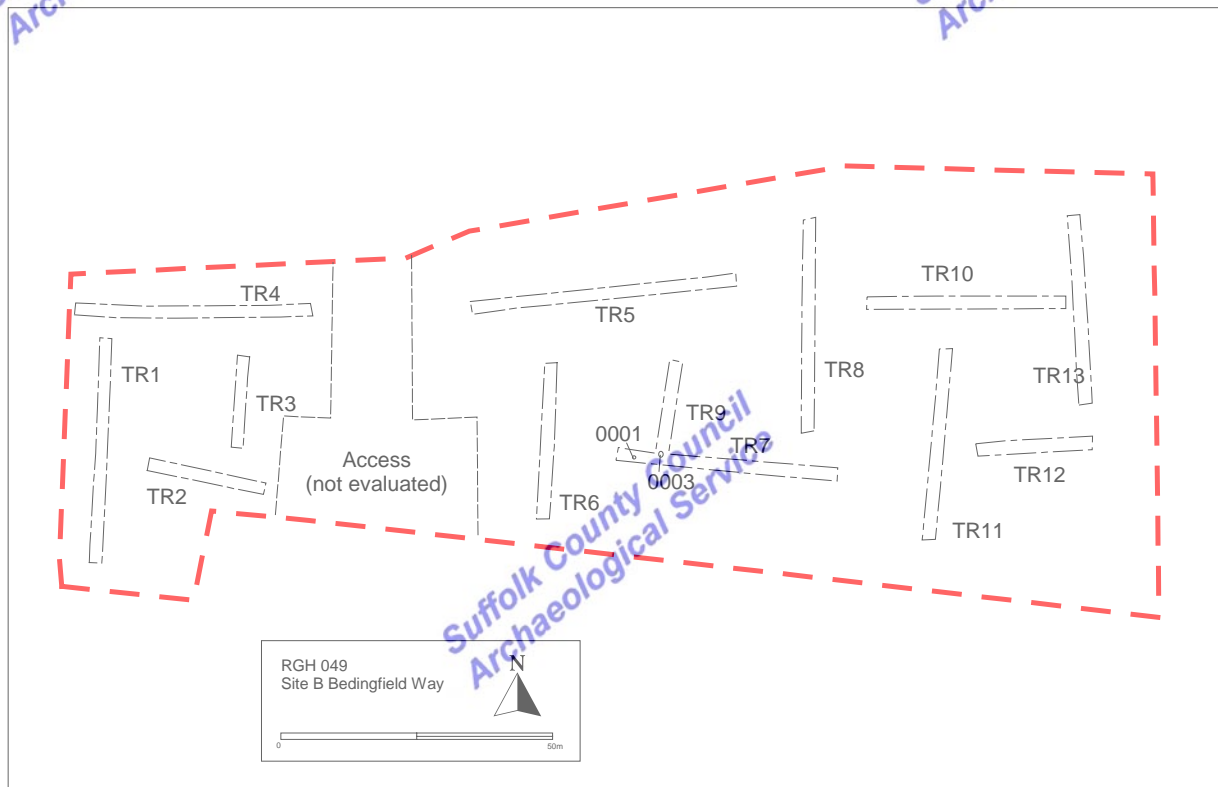


Figure 2. RGH 049 trench plan

### Trench 1 (Figures 2 and 3)

The trench was excavated in a north to south direction to a length of 41.5m and was located on the western limit of the evaluation area. The depth varied from 0.66m at the south end to 0.39m at the north end and was made up of a topsoil layer, 0.4 to 0.22m deep, over an orange sand, 0.28 to 0.18m deep, over the natural subsoil. The southern end of the trench was heavily disturbed by tree roots and across the northern half of the trench a pipe ran in a south-west to north-east direction.

### Trench 2 (Figures 2 and 3)

The trench was excavated to a length of 21m and ran in an east to west direction and was located immediately to the east of Trench 1. The depth of the trench varied between 0.76m at its western limit to 0.64m at its eastern limit. The trench was excavated through a topsoil, 0.3 to 0.24m deep, above a dark brown sand and rubble which measured between 0.16 to 0.12m deep. Immediately below this was an orange sand, 0.16m deep, over the natural subsoil.

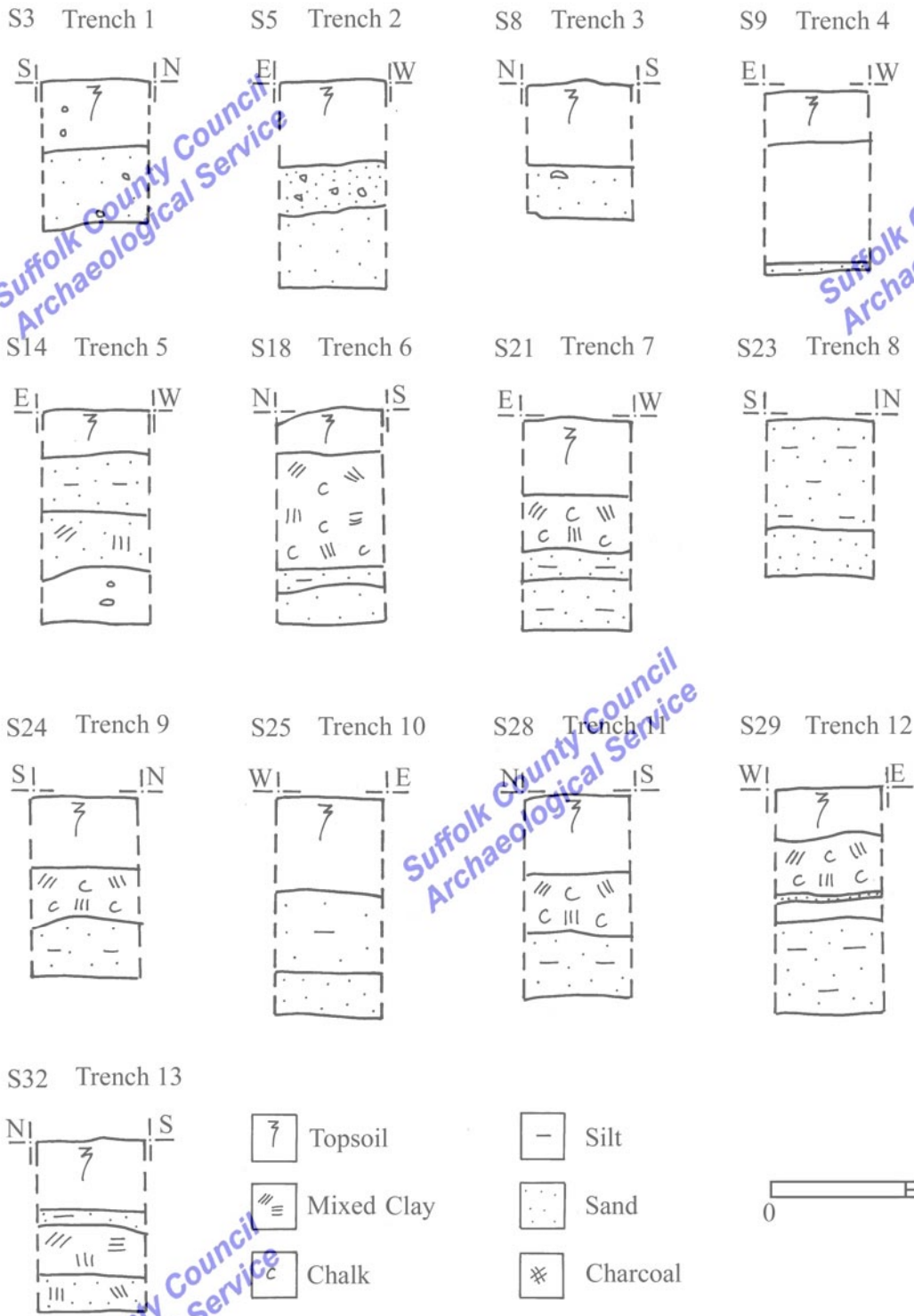


Figure 3. RGH 049 trench profiles

*Trench 3* (Figures 2 and 3)

Trench 3 was excavated to a total length of 17.5m and ran north to south parallel to and to the east of Trench 1. The excavated depth of the trench was between 0.66m to the south and 0.48m to the north. The soil profile at the southern end of Trench 3 is similar to that of Trench 2. The



northern end of the trench was made up of a 0.28m deep topsoil over a 0.2m deep orange sand above the natural subsoil.

#### *Trench 4* (Figures 2 and 3)

The trench was excavated to a total length of 44.5m, aligned east to west, and located to the north of Trenches 1 and 3. The trench is 0.7m deep at its western limit becoming shallower to the east with a depth of 0.45m. Trench 4 is heavily disturbed as it was excavated through a former road surface and its associated construction layers. The road appears to be recent, as it is present on modern OS maps, and was the access road before the current road layout of the new development.

#### *Trench 5* (Figures 2 and 3)

Trench 5 was excavated to a total length of 49m and ran east to west continuing on from and to the east of Trench 4 on the opposite side of a modern access way. The trench varies in depth between 0.8m near its western end to 0.57m towards the east. The trench was excavated through a topsoil layer, 0.2 to 0.18m deep, which was over a mid brown silty sand, 0.2 to 0.1m deep. Immediately below this was a 0.28 to 0.1m deep orange/brown sandy clay sitting on the natural subsoil. Two brick structures were identified within the trench but appeared to be modern drains probably associated with the farm structures previously occupying this area.

#### *Trench 6* (Figures 2 and 3)

Trench 6 was excavated to a total length of 29m and ran north to south and was located to the south of Trench 5. The trench was approximately 0.8m deep along its entire length though it was heavily disturbed at its northern end by modern pitting. The trench was excavated through a 0.2 to 0.18m deep topsoil over a yellow clay, 0.42m deep, which was above a mid brown silty sand, 0.1m deep, which sat on the natural subsoil.

#### *Trench 7* (Figures 2 and 3)

Trench 7 was excavated to a total length of 41m and ran east to west with a secondary trench which ran north to south, Trench 9, from it. The depth of the trench was between 0.88 to 0.8m with the west end being slightly deeper. The soil profile was made up of a 0.28 to 0.2m deep topsoil over a layer of grey clay and chalk, 0.22 to 0.2m deep, which extended across most of the length of the trench from the east end. This may be associated with the building that had, until recently, stood on this site and may form the building platform on which the structure was built. This layer was directly over a 0.12 to 0.1m deep dark brown sandy silt, which in turn lay over a 0.38 to 0.2m deep orange/brown sandy silt which came down onto the natural subsoil. Two features were identified within this trench, pits 0001 and 0003.

Pit 0001 was circular in plan with a diameter of 0.6m and a depth of 0.19m. It had smooth sloping sides and a flattish base and was cut into the natural subsoil. It was sealed by an orange/brown sandy silt layer identified in the trench profile (Figure 4). The pit was filled by charcoal mixed with a yellow/orange sand, 0002. No finds were recovered and the environmental sample produced only charcoal remains.

Pit 0003 was oval in plan, 0.95m by 0.8m, with a gradual slope to a concave base (Figure 4). The pit was cut into the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.2m and was sealed below an orange/brown sandy silt visible in the trench profile. The pit was filled with charcoal mixed with a dark brown sandy silt. A small layer and patches of burnt clay suggests *in-situ* burning. No finds were recovered and the environmental sample produced only charcoal.

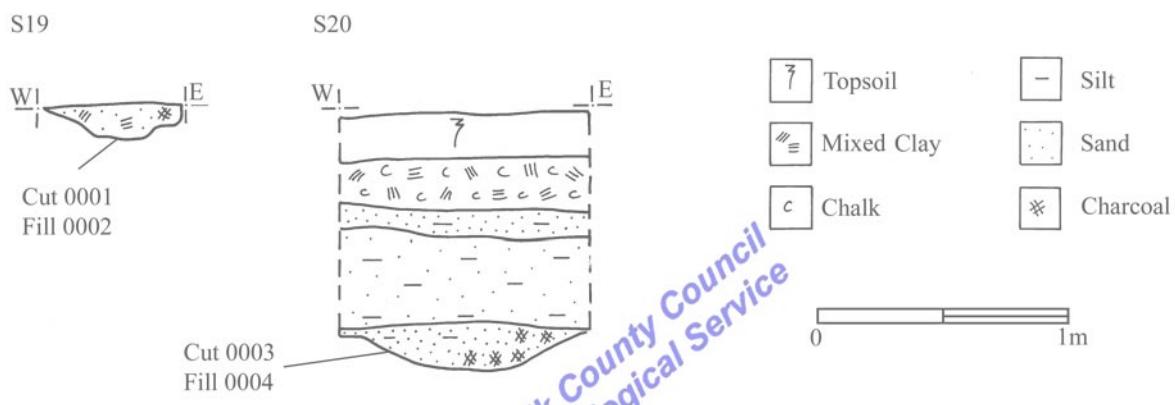
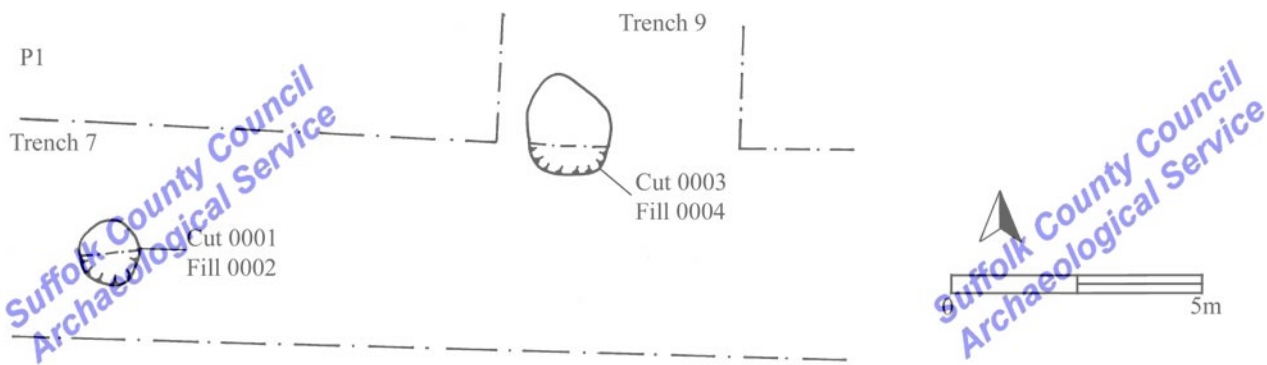


Figure 4. RGH 049 plan and sections of pits 0001 and 0003

**Trench 8** (Figures 2 and 3)

The trench was excavated to a total length of 39.5m and ran in a north to south direction east of Trench 5. The trench was 0.7m deep at its southern end becoming shallower to the north, 0.6m deep. The southern end of the trench is similar to the profiles identified in Trenches 7 and 9 showing the continuation of the possible building platform. The northern end of the trench appeared undisturbed with a 0.4m deep topsoil over a 0.18m deep orange/brown sand which sat on natural subsoil.

**Trench 9** (Figures 2 and 3)

Trench 9 ran in a north to south direction from the north edge of Trench 7 for a total length of 16m. The trench was excavated to expose the remainder of pit 0003 and to attempt to identify any further features in this area. The trench was excavated to a depth of 0.7m with a similar profile to Trench 7 along most of its length. The soil profile was made up of a 0.24m deep topsoil over a 0.22m deep grey clay and chalk layer which lay over a 0.18m deep orange/brown sandy silt over the natural subsoil.

**Trench 10** (Figures 2 and 3)

Trench 10 was excavated in an east to west direction to the east of and at right angles to Trench 8 and extended to a total length of 37.5m. The total depth of the trench was fairly even, 0.75m at the west end and 0.8m at the east. It was excavated through a topsoil, 0.34 to 0.24m deep, over a light brown sandy silt, 0.3 to 0.26m deep, which sat above a 0.2 to 0.17m deep orange/brown

sand on the natural subsoil. A modern pipe was visible running north to south across the trench 5m from the eastern end.

#### *Trench 11* (Figures 2 and 3)

Trench 11 was excavated to a total length of 36.5m to the south of and at right angles to Trench 10 and ran in a north to south direction. The northern end of the trench was excavated to a depth of 0.83m but was heavily disturbed while the southern end was excavated to a depth of 0.75m and had a similar profile to Trenches 7 and 9. The soil profile was a 0.2m topsoil over a mixed grey/brown clay and chalk layer, 0.22m deep, over a 0.24m deep orange/brown sandy silt over the natural subsoil.

#### *Trench 12* (Figures 2 and 3)

The trench ran east to west for a total length of 19.9m and was located to the east of Trench 11. It was excavated to a depth of between 0.84 and 0.71m along its length. The trench profile was a 0.2 to 0.18m deep topsoil over 0.21m deep orange clay layer with chalk, though this layer was not visible at the east end of the trench. Below this layer was a dark brown sandy silt, 0.12 to 0.1m deep, over a 0.38 to 0.34m deep orange/brown sandy silt above the natural subsoil.

#### *Trench 13* (Figures 2 and 3)

Trench 13 was excavated at the eastern limit of the evaluation site and ran in a north to south direction for a total of 35m. The south end of the trench, excavated to a depth of 0.96m, was heavily disturbed with a very mixed profile. The northern end of the trench was excavated to a depth of 0.62m through a topsoil, 0.24m deep, over a thin layer of orange/yellow sandy silt, 0.06m deep. Below this layer was a 0.18m deep mid brown clay which sat directly on the natural subsoil.

## RGH 050

### Introduction

Six trenches were excavated, all onto an orange sand and clay natural, which varied across site in proportion of sand and clay. The site was 1.15 hectares and the trenches were excavated to a total length of 255m. A plan of the trenches has been presented in Figure 5 and a representative profile from each trench is shown in Figure 6.

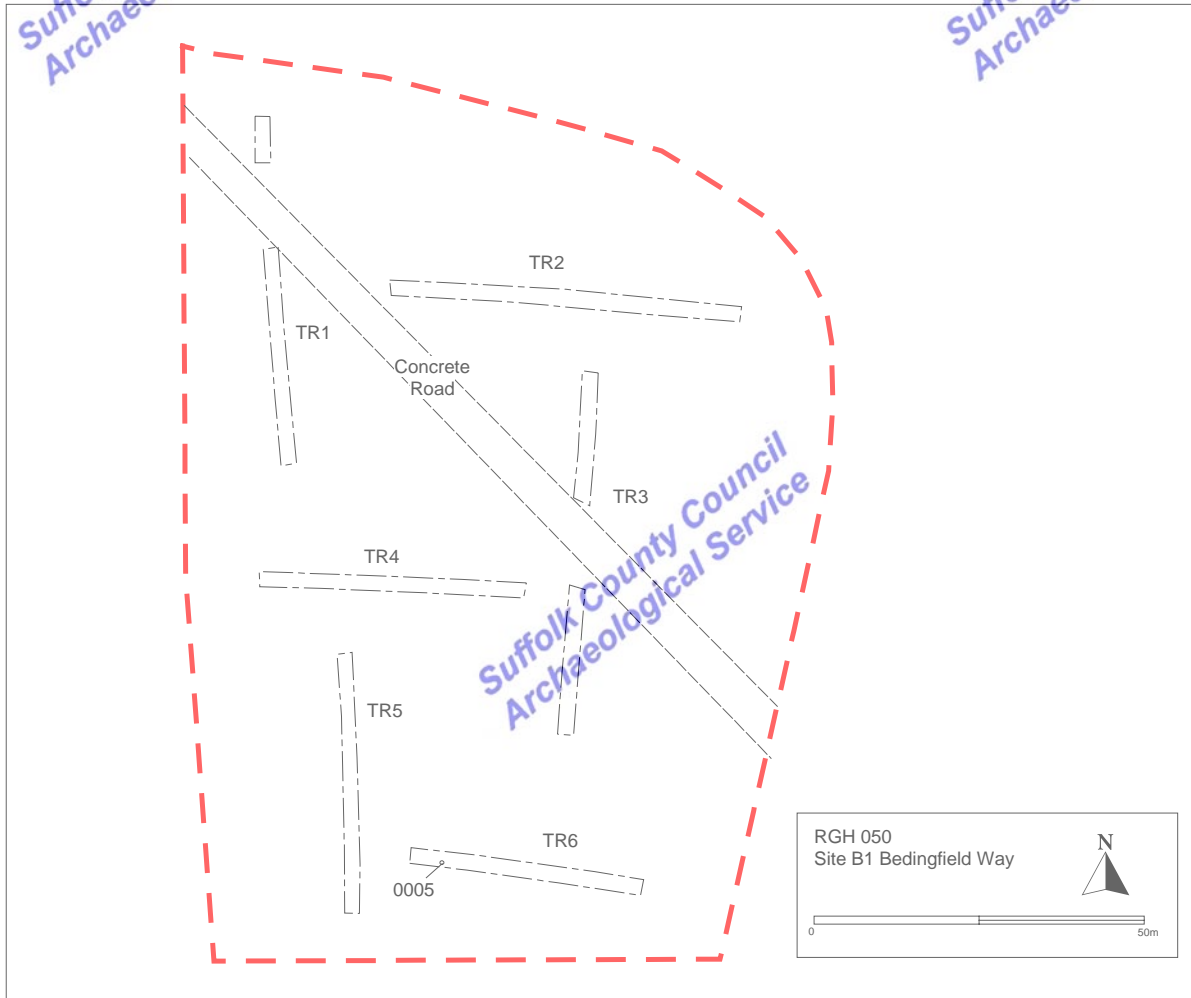


Figure 5. RGH 050 trench plan

### Trench 1 (Figures 5 and 6)

Trench 1 was excavated in the north-west corner of the evaluation area and ran in a north to south direction. The trench was split in two as a modern concrete track ran across it with the northern part extending 11.5m and the southern part 32m. The total depth of the trench varied between 0.67 to 0.55m with the middle of the trench the deepest point. The trench was excavated through a 0.24 to 0.28m deep topsoil over a 0.1 to 0.22m deep dark grey clay, which became chalkier to the south before fading out. Below this layer was a 0.14 to 0.22m deep orange sand on the natural subsoil.

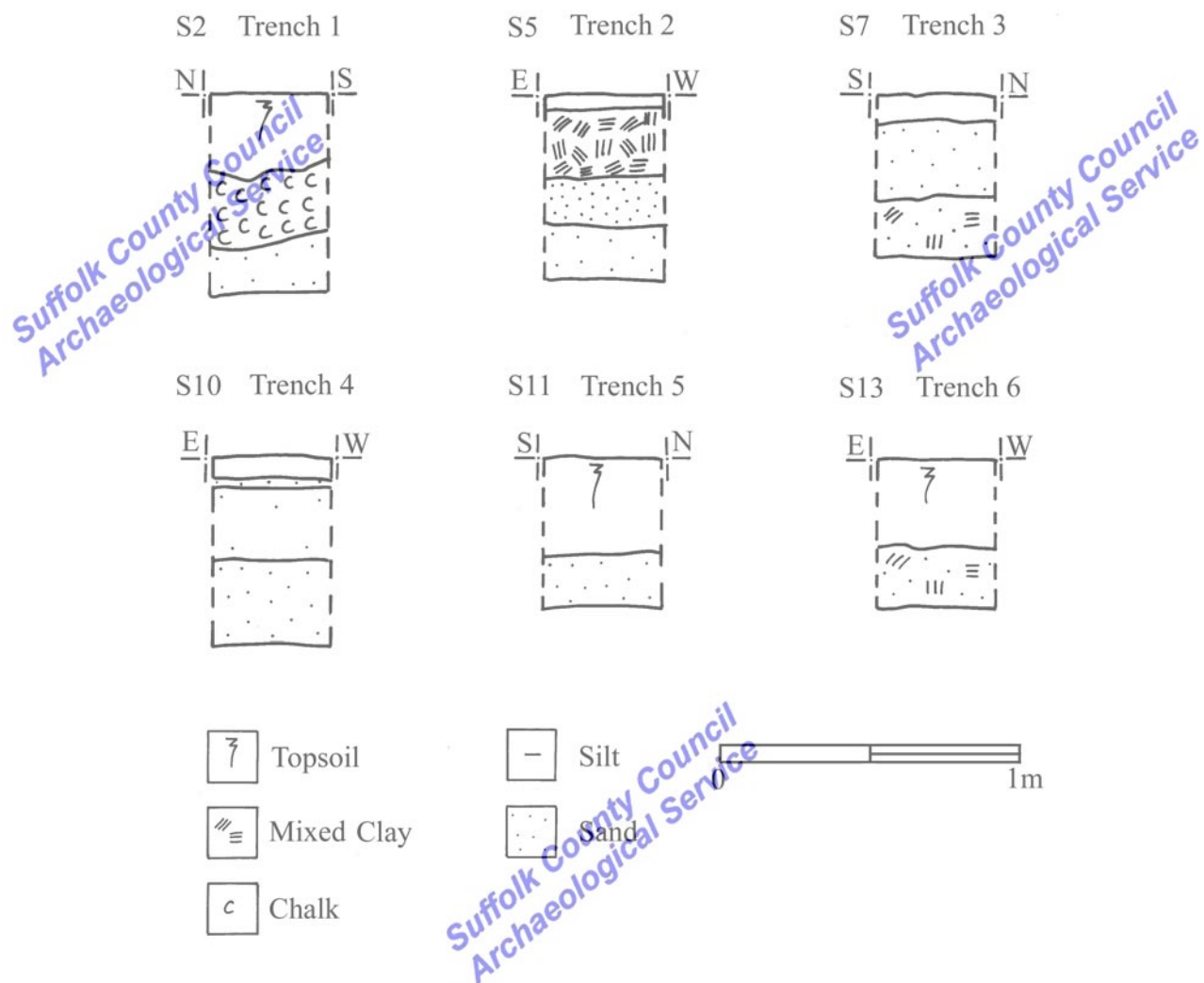


Figure 6. RGH 050 trench profiles

### Trench 2 (Figures 5 and 6)

Trench 2 was located to the east of and at right angles to Trench 1 and was 53.5m in length running in an east to west direction. The topsoil extended across the entire length of the trench, 0.34m deep, but became a very thin towards the eastern end of the trench, 0.06m deep. The topsoil lay over a dark grey clay, 0.17 to 0.22m deep, which lay above a dark orange sand, 0.14 to 0.16m deep. Immediately below this layer was a 0.1 to 0.2m deep orange sand and clay over the natural subsoil.

### Trench 3 (Figures 5 and 6)

As with Trench 1 this trench ran north to south and was split into two parts either side of a modern concrete track. The northern part was 20m in length and the southern part was 22m in length. The trench was excavated through a thin topsoil, between 0.1 and 0.04m deep, over a 0.24 to 0.3m deep orange/brown sand which becomes a rubble fill towards the south of the trench. The rubble may be the remains of tracks associated with the building platform identified in the evaluation to the west (RGH 049). The rubble layer sat above an orange sandy clay, 0.18 to 0.22m deep, over the natural subsoil. A modern pipe was identified running in an east to west direction across the trench near the southern end.

#### Trench 4 (Figures 5 and 6)

Trench 4 was excavated 40.5m in length in an east to west direction at right angles and to the west of Trench 3. The trench was similar to Trench 3 at its eastern end. Towards the west was a thin topsoil, 0.08m deep, over a thin layer of orange sand, 0.04m deep, which lay above a 0.22m deep light brown sand layer. This layer was directly over a 0.28m deep orange sand over the natural subsoil. A modern pipe was identified near the middle of the trench and ran in a north to south direction.

#### Trench 5 (Figures 5 and 6)

Trench 5 was excavated to a total length of 39.5m, which ran north to south and was located at right angles and to the south of Trench 4. At its northern end the soil profile was similar to Trench 3 but at the southern end the topsoil became deeper, 0.32m, and sat directly over a 0.18m deep orange sand over the natural subsoil.

#### Trench 6 (Figures 5 and 6)

Trench 6 was excavated in the south-east corner of the site and ran east to west for a total length of 36m. The trench was excavated through a 0.3m deep topsoil over a 0.2m deep orange clayey sand which sealed a single pit, 0005, which was cut into the underlying natural subsoil.

Pit 0005 was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.5m long and 0.48m wide. The pit had steep sides with a flat base and was excavated to a depth of 0.07m (Figure 7). A single black sand and charcoal fill, 0006, was identified. As with pits 0001 and 0003 from the adjacent evaluation area (RGH 049) no finds were recovered from the fill and environmental sampling produced only charcoal.

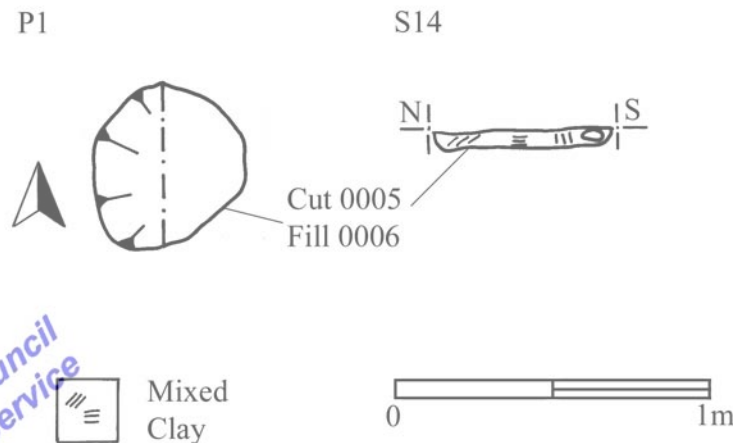


Figure 7. RGH 050 plan and section of pit 0005

## Plant macrofossil evidence

By Val Fryer

### *Introduction*

Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from three undated pits, 0001 and 0003 from RGH 049 and 0005 from RGH 050, all with charcoal rich fills.

### *Methodology*

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 500 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications of x 6.4.

### *Results*

Assemblages from both sites (RGH 049 and RGH 050) consisted entirely of small and large charcoal fragments. Most pieces were reasonably well preserved, although some fragments had a flaked appearance, possibly caused by charring at very high temperatures.

### *Conclusions*

Although it is assumed that both assemblages are derived from spent fuel, there is no indication whether combustion was intended for a domestic or other purpose.

## Discussion

Although both development areas were comprehensively trenched there was very little archaeological evidence identified. Site B (RGH 049) was heavily disturbed by a modern road, visible in Trench 4, a farm building platform, Trenches 7, 8 and 9, and drains associated with the structures, Trench 5. Below this disturbance was a consistent subsoil which appeared re-deposited possibly to level the site for all the subsequent building works.

Site B1 (RGH 050) was almost identical to Site B (RGH 049) though no modern buildings were identified on this area and the subsoil became thinner towards the south.

Both sites appeared to have suffered heavy damage due to farming, landscaping and building across this area. Also more recent landscaping has occurred on the sites after the demolition of the buildings and re-routing of the roads.

Three undated pits were identified, 0001 and 0003 (RGH 049) and 0005 (RGH 050), across the two evaluations. These three pits are very similar to others identified during the large-scale evaluation to the north (BRG 024 – Finch 1999). These features have been identified as fog diffusers associated with the airfield where fires would be burnt to lift the fog to allow returning aircraft to land safely. However, there is no evidence of *in situ* burning and on RGH 049 the features were sealed below a redeposited subsoil which was below an airfield structure. These pits may have been associated with an earlier phase of the airfield but do not appear to be associated with fog dispersal.

## Recommendations

The evaluations indicated that the development areas, Site B and B1, were within a heavily disturbed landscape with little surviving archaeological deposits. The three undated pits were isolated features and similar isolated features were investigated elsewhere across the landscape. However, the two evaluations (RGH 049 and 050) have shown their association with the airfield was unlikely.

Due to the lack of archaeological deposit survival no further archaeological work is recommended for either of the development sites.

## References

- Atfield, R., forthcoming, Site B, Suffolk Business Park, Kempson Way, Bury St. Edmunds, RGH 044. S.C.C.A.S. Report
- Craven, J., forthcoming, Moreton Hall East, Rougham, Bury St Edmunds, RGH 035-039. S.C.C.A.S. Report
- Finch, E., 1999, Moreton Hall East, Great Barton, Bury St Edmunds, BRG 024. S.C.C.A.S. Report No 99/64
- Gill, D., 2003, Eldohouse Farm, Bury St. Edmunds, Buildings A2 and A4, BSE 131. S.C.C.A.S. Report No. 2003/77

## Disclaimer

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Division alone. 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 service cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.



# Appendix 1 Brief and specification RGH 049

## SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

### *Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation*

#### SITE B, SUFFOLK BUSINESS PARK, BEDINGFIELD WAY, BURY ST EDMUNDS

*The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety responsibilities, see paragraph 1.7.*

#### 1. Background

- 1.1 Planning consent (application SE/05/02411) has been granted for the erection of a business park, with offices, light industrial units, carparking and landscaping, on land at Site B, Suffolk Business Park, Kempson Way, Bury St Edmunds (TL 8813 6407) with a PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition requiring an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out.
- 1.2 The Planning Authority has been advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins (PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition). An archaeological evaluation of the application area will be required as the first part of such a programme of archaeological work; decisions on the need for, and scope of, any further work will be based upon the evaluation.
- 1.3 The application lies in an area of archaeological importance, defined in the County Sites and Monuments Record. Excavations on the site of the new postal sorting and delivery office, immediately to the south, have defined Neolithic occupation deposits (RGH 044). It is also to the east of excavations that defined Iron Age and medieval occupation deposits, which included a succession of large dwellings from the late thirteenth or early fourteenth century (BSE 131). In addition, archaeological evaluation defined an area of Roman occupation to the north. The proposal will cause significant ground disturbance and will affect a considerable area (c. 2.09 ha). The evidence within the immediate area demonstrates the high potential for archaeological deposits to be disturbed by this development.
- 1.4 All arrangements for the field evaluation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated with the commissioning body.
- 1.5 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.
- 1.6 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Project Design or Written Scheme of Investigation (PD/WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the PD/WSI as satisfactory. The PD/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.
- 1.7 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination.

## Appendix 1

### 2. Brief for the Archaeological Evaluation

- 2.1 Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ* [at the discretion of the developer].
- 2.2 Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- 2.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- 2.4 Establish whether waterlogged organic deposits are likely to be present in the proposal area.
- 2.5 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.6 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2), all stages will follow a process of assessment and justification before proceeding to the next phase of the project. Field evaluation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential. Any further excavation required as mitigation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential, analysis and final report preparation may follow. Each stage will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design, this document covers only the evaluation stage.
- 2.7 The developer or his archaeologist will give the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (address as above) five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored.
- 2.8 If the approved evaluation design is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected. Alternatively the presence of an archaeological deposit may be presumed, and untested areas included on this basis when defining the final mitigation strategy.
- 2.9 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

### 3. Specification: Field Evaluation

- 3.1 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover a minimum 5% by area and shall be positioned to sample all parts of the site, an area measuring c. 1.72 ha. excluding the protect woodland belt of trees that define the southern boundary (Figure 1). Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.8m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated; this will result in a minimum of c. 478m of trenching at 1.8m in width. If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' at least 1.2m wide must be used. The detailed trench design must be approved by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service before field work begins.
- 3.2 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine fitted with toothless bucket and other equipment. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.
- 3.3 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a

## Appendix 1

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

- 3.4 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation; that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled.
  - 3.5 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.
  - 3.6 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. The contractor shall provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from J. Heathcote, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.
  - 3.7 Any natural subsoil surface revealed should be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Sample excavation of any archaeological features revealed may be necessary in order to gauge their date and character.
  - 3.8 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.
  - 3.9 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed with the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service during the course of the evaluation).
  - 3.10 Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. However, the excavator should be aware of, and comply with, the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.
  - 3.11 Plans of any archaeological features on the site are to be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum. Any variations from this must be agreed with the Conservation Team.
  - 3.12 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies.
  - 3.13 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.
- #### 4. General Management
- 4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service.
  - 4.2 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors).

## Appendix 1

- 4.3 A general Health and Safety Policy must be provided, with detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this particular site.
- 4.4 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 4.5 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* and for *Field Evaluations* should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

### 5. Report Requirements

- 5.1 An archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1).
- 5.2 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monuments Record.
- 5.3 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 6.4 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given. No further site work should be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established
- 5.5 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.
- 5.6 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 5.7 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*. The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County SMR if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.
- 5.8 The site archive is to be deposited with the County SMR within three months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 5.9 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project (whether it be evaluation or excavation) a summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology*, must be prepared. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to the Conservation Team, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 5.10 County SMR sheets must be completed, as per the county SMR manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 5.11 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.

## Appendix 1

- 5.12 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the SMR. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

Specification by: Dr Jess Tipper

Suffolk County Council  
Archaeological Service Conservation Team  
Environment and Transport Department  
Shire Hall  
Bury St Edmunds  
Suffolk IP33 2AR

Tel: 01284 352197

Date: 9 February 2006

Reference: / SiteB-KempsonWayBSE 2006

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

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

# Appendix 2 Brief and specification RGH 050

## SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

### *Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation*

#### **SITE B1, SUFFOLK BUSINESS PARK, BEDINGFIELD WAY, BURY ST EDMUNDS**

*The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety responsibilities, see paragraph 1.7.*

#### **1. Background**

- 1.1 Planning consent (application SE/05/02428) has been granted for the erection of a car showroom building and associated facilities on land at Site B1, Suffolk Park, Kempson Way, Bury St Edmunds (TL 8827 6404) with a PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition requiring an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out.
- 1.2 The Planning Authority has been advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins (PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition). An archaeological evaluation of the application area will be required as the first part of such a programme of archaeological work; decisions on the need for, and scope of, any further work will be based upon the evaluation.
- 1.3 The application lies in an area of archaeological importance, defined in the County Sites and Monuments Record. Excavations on the site of the new postal sorting and delivery office, immediately to the west, have defined Neolithic occupation deposits. It is also to the east of excavations that defined Iron Age and medieval occupation deposits, which included a succession of large dwellings from the late thirteenth or early fourteenth century (BSE 131). In addition, archaeological evaluation defined an area of Roman occupation to the north. The proposal will cause significant ground disturbance and will affect a considerable area (c. 0.96 ha). It has not been subject to systematic archaeological survey and we have no specific information relating to this site. The evidence within the immediate area demonstrates the high potential for archaeological deposits to be disturbed by this development.
- 1.4 All arrangements for the field evaluation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated with the commissioning body.
- 1.5 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.
- 1.6 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Project Design or Written Scheme of Investigation (PD/WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the PD/WSI as satisfactory. The PD/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.
- 1.7 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination.

## Appendix 2

### 2. Brief for the Archaeological Evaluation

- 2.1 Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ* [at the discretion of the developer].
- 2.2 Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- 2.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- 2.4 Establish whether waterlogged organic deposits are likely to be present in the proposal area.
- 2.5 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.6 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2), all stages will follow a process of assessment and justification before proceeding to the next phase of the project. Field evaluation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential. Any further excavation required as mitigation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential, analysis and final report preparation may follow. Each stage will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design, this document covers only the evaluation stage.
- 2.7 The developer or his archaeologist will give the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (address as above) five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored.
- 2.8 If the approved evaluation design is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected. Alternatively the presence of an archaeological deposit may be presumed, and untested areas included on this basis when defining the final mitigation strategy.
- 2.9 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

### 3. Specification: Field Evaluation

- 3.1 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover a minimum 5% by area of the entire site and shall be positioned to sample all parts of the site. Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.8m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated; this will result in a minimum of c. 267m of trenching at 1.8m in width. If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' at least 1.2m wide must be used. The detailed trench design must be approved by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service before field work begins.
- 3.2 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine fitted with toothless bucket and other equipment. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.
- 3.3 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of further excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.

## Appendix 2

- 3.4 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation; that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled.
- 3.5 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.
- 3.6 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. The contractor shall provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from J. Heathcote, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.
- 3.7 Any natural subsoil surface revealed should be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Sample excavation of any archaeological features revealed may be necessary in order to gauge their date and character.
- 3.8 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.
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- 3.10 Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. However, the excavator should be aware of, and comply with, the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.
- 3.11 Plans of any archaeological features on the site are to be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum. Any variations from this must be agreed with the Conservation Team.
- 3.12 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies.
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4. **General Management**
- 4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service.
- 4.2 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors).
- 4.3 A general Health and Safety Policy must be provided, with detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this particular site.



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

4.5 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* and for *Field Evaluations* should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

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5.1 An archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1).

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Shire Hall  
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Suffolk IP33 2AR

Tel: 01284 352197

Date: 22 December 2005

Reference: / SiteB1-KempsonWayBSE 2005

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## Appendix 3 - Trench list - RGH 049

Trench	Description	Alignment	Length	Width	Depth	Plans	Sections	Associated Features
1	Western edge of site nearest to industrial estate. Root disturbance from tree next to west section south end of site. Natural becoming slightly clayey towards N end. Pipe runs across N half of trench SW-NE.	S-N	41.5m	2.15m	S-0.66m M/S-0.46m M/N-0.53m N-0.39m		1 2 3 4	
2	No archaeological features. Nearest E-W trench to industrial estate. Natural consistent throughout.	E-W	21m	2.15m	W-0.76m E-0.64m		5 6	
3	North of Trench 2. Varying natural clayey orange sand with occasional patches and bands of yellow loose sand.	N-S	17.5m	2.15m	S-0.66m N-0.48m		7 8	modern pit (4m from S edge 2m wide N-S)
4	Western end level with northern end of Trench 1. Seam of Tarmac in south sections from 4.5m to 10.9m from eastern end. Natural is compacted orange clay/sand. Patchy tarmac along south section west of seam. No tarmac is north section. Same pipe as Trench 1 appears half way along.	E-W	44.5	2.15m	W-0.7m W/M-0.55m E/M-0.5m E-0.45m		9 10 11 12	
5	Natural patchy varies along length. Base shallow and undulating. Two brick structures - 8.5m and 26.8m from western end of trench.	W-E	49m	2.15m	W-0.6m W/M-0.8m E/M-0.66m E-0.57m		13 14 15 16	two brick structures (dark fill, light brick walls, mostly removed by machine)
6	Natural mixed orange compacted clay/sand. Area very disturbed by modern activity.	N-S	29m	2.15m	N-0.8m S-		17 18	
7	Chalk deposit runs from 16.2m from east end to 11m from west end. Natural is mixed orange sand clay. Features are cut into this natural situated at the west end of trench.	E-W	41m	2.15m	W-0.88m E-0.8m	1	19 20 21	pit 0001 pit 0003

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Alignment</i>	<i>Length</i>	<i>Width</i>	<i>Depth</i>	<i>Plans</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Associated Features</i>
8	Mixed chalk and clay deposit runs from south edge to 15 north. Natural mixed orange sand with orange clay patches.	N-S	39.5m	2.15m	S-0.7m N-0.6m		22 23	modern pit
9	Extension joining to TR7 to look at pit 0003. Patchy orange clay and sand natural. Mixed chalk and clay runs from S edge for 14m.	N-S	16m	2.15m	0.7m	1	24	pit 0003
10	Little disturbance (modern) compared to rest of trial trenches. Mixed sand and clay natural at base. Modern pipe running N-S 5m from east side of trench.	E-W	37.5m	2.15m	W-0.75m E-0.80m		25 26	modern pipe trench
11	No disturbance. Mixed orange sand and clay natural.	N-S	36.5m	2.15m	N-0.88m S-0.75m		27 28	
12	No disturbance. Mixed orange sand and clay natural.	E-W	19.9m	2.15m	W-0.84m E-0.71m		29 30	
13	Modern pipes near N end. Mixed orange sand and clay natural	N-S	35m	2.15m	S-0.96m N-0.62m		31 32	

## Appendix 4 - Trench List - RGH 050

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Alignment</i>	<i>Length</i>	<i>Width</i>	<i>Depth</i>	<i>Plans</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Associated Features</i>
1	Trench is split into two sections by an old road which was left in place. Natural was an orange sand and clay.	N-S	11.5m+32m	2.15m	N-0.62m M-0.67m		1 2 3	
2	Natural was a mixed orange sand and clay.	E-W	53.5m	2.15m	W-0.53m M-0.62m		4 5 6	
3	Trench is split into two sections by an old road which was left in place. Natural was an orange sand and clay. Modern pipe runs across trench near southern end.	N-S	20m+22m	2.15m	N-0.54m S-0.58m		7 8	
4	Natural was a mixed orange sand and clay. Modern pipe runs across trench near middle.	E-W	40.5m	2.15m	E-0.8m W-0.54m		9 10	
5	Natural was a mixed orange sand and clay.	N-S	39.5m	2.15m	N-0.5m S-0.56m		11 12	
6	Pit 0005 located near western end of trench. Natural was a mixed orange sand and clay.	E-W	36m	2.15m	W-0.5m E-0.65m	1	13 14 15	0005