

110-112 Handford Road  
(former Three Jolly Sailors PH), Ipswich  
IPS 716

Additional trenching

**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

SCCAS Report No. 2014/117

**Client: East of England Co-operative Society Ltd.**

Author: M. Sommers

October 2014

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SCCAS Report No. 2014/117

Author: M. Sommers

Contributions By: Cathy Tester

Editor: Dr R. Gardner

Report Date: October 2014



## HER Information

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**Report Number:** 2014/117

**Site Name:** 110-112, Handford Road (former Three Jolly Sailors PH), Ipswich

**Planning Application No:** IP/14/00218/FUL

**Date of Fieldwork:** 17th October 2014

**Grid Reference:** TM 1535 4463

**Client/Funding Body:** East of England Co-operative Society Ltd.

**Client Reference:** n/a

**Curatorial Officer:** Jude Plouviez

**Project Officer:** M. Sommers

**Oasis Reference:** suffolkc1-194153

**Site Code:** IPS 716

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: M. Sommers  
Date: 24th October 2014

Approved By: Dr R. Gardner  
Position: Contracts Manager

Date:  
Signed:



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## **Summary**

A single archaeological evaluation trench was excavated within the site of the former Three Jolly Sailors PH, 110-112, Handford Road, Ipswich, which revealed the presence of at least one Roman feature and four other undated, but possibly Roman, features. Only portions of these features were present within the trench making interpretations difficult. The largest feature, which contained the Roman material, is possibly a pit or a large post-hole; the other features are probably postholes but they do not form any obvious patterns that could relate to a single structure.

The excavation of this trench followed an earlier evaluation on this site that also revealed Roman features (SCCAS Report No. 2013/067). One trench of the earlier evaluation revealed significant modern disturbance and truncation of the archaeological levels but this was not noted in this additional trench. A large multi-period site (HER ref. IPS 280), which includes Roman and Anglo-Saxon occupation, lies some 25m to the south. The features recorded on this site suggest a continuation of this site to the northeast (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Field Team for East of England Co-operative Society Ltd.).



# **1. Introduction**

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A single archaeological evaluation trench was excavated within the site of the former Three Jolly Sailors PH, 110-112, Handford Road, Ipswich. The site has been subjected to a previous phase of trial trenching in response to the proposed construction of a supermarket (Meredith 2013). Due to a variation in the detail of the proposed development the curatorial officer, Jude Plouviez, has signified that an additional trench would be required in order to fulfil the original brief issued for the for the archaeological evaluation of this site. The excavation of this additional trench followed the methods outlined in the existing Written Scheme of Investigation, which can be found as an appendix to the original report.

The National Grid Reference for the approximate centre of the site is TM 1535 4463. Figure 1 shows a location plan of the development area. The evaluation was undertaken on the 17th October 2014 by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service's Field Team who were commissioned and funded by the East of England Co-operative Society Ltd.

# **2. Archaeology and historical background**

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Detail of the site's archaeological and historical background can be found in Section 2 of the original evaluation report. In summary, the site has a high archaeological potential due to the number of known Roman and Anglo-Saxon sites that are recorded in the vicinity, the most significant of which is the large multi-period site to the southwest (HER ref. IPS 280; location marked in Fig. 1). The previous phase of evaluation revealed two postholes containing Roman pottery and an undated pit. A possible Roman occupation layer was also identified.

The former Three Jolly Sailors Public House was opened in the mid-19th century within a Victorian terrace that originally extended to the east and west. It came to incorporate properties to the east and in its final incarnation consisted of what were originally four separate houses behind a new façade that gave it the appearance of a single structure. To the east of the public house a further two houses were demolished to form an access road to the rear yard. Following closure of the public house in 2012 the building was demolished.

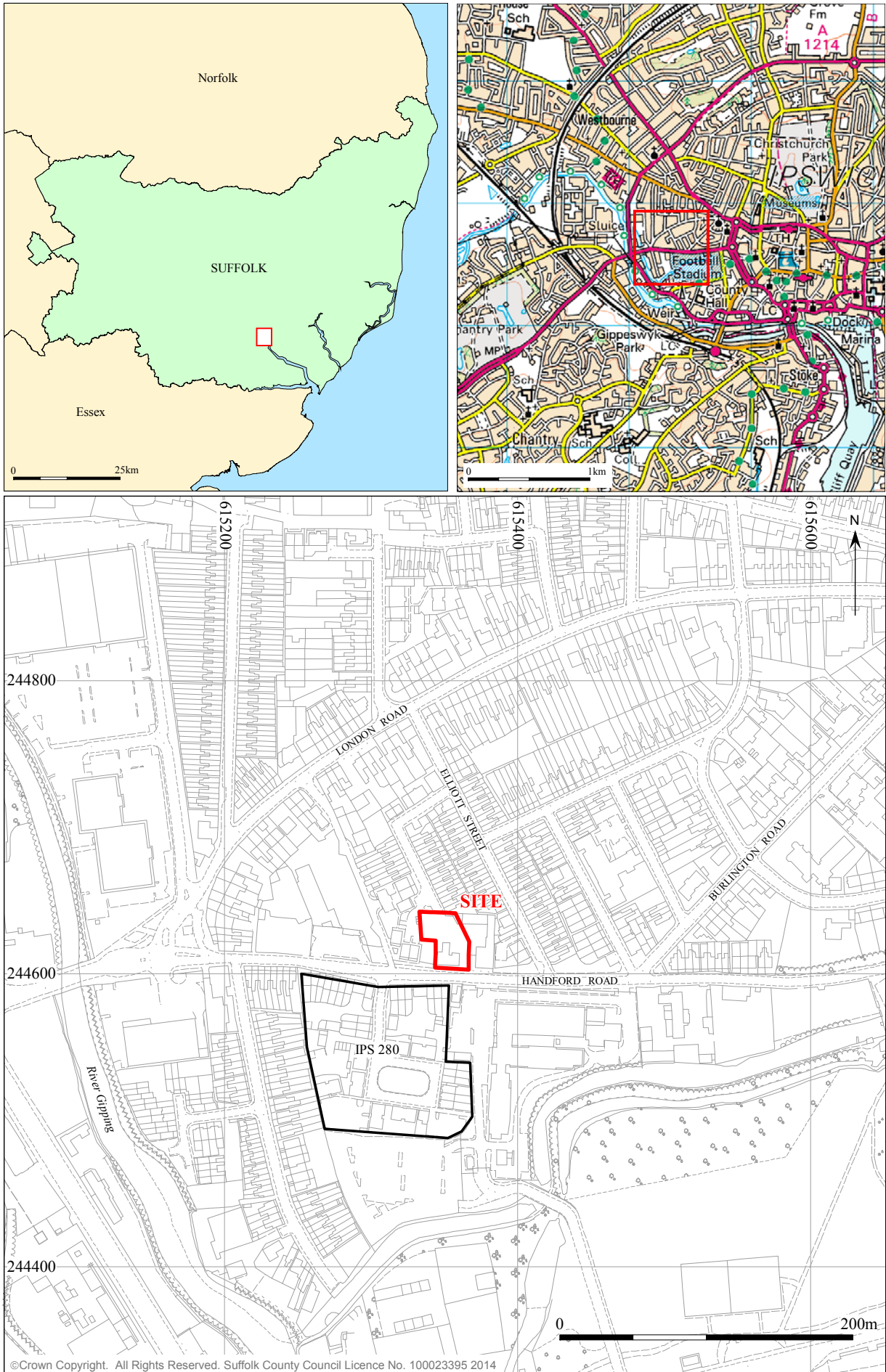


Figure 1. Location map

### 3. Methodology

The methodology follows Section 3 of the original report although only a single trench was excavated (T3), the location of which is depicted in Figure 2 below.

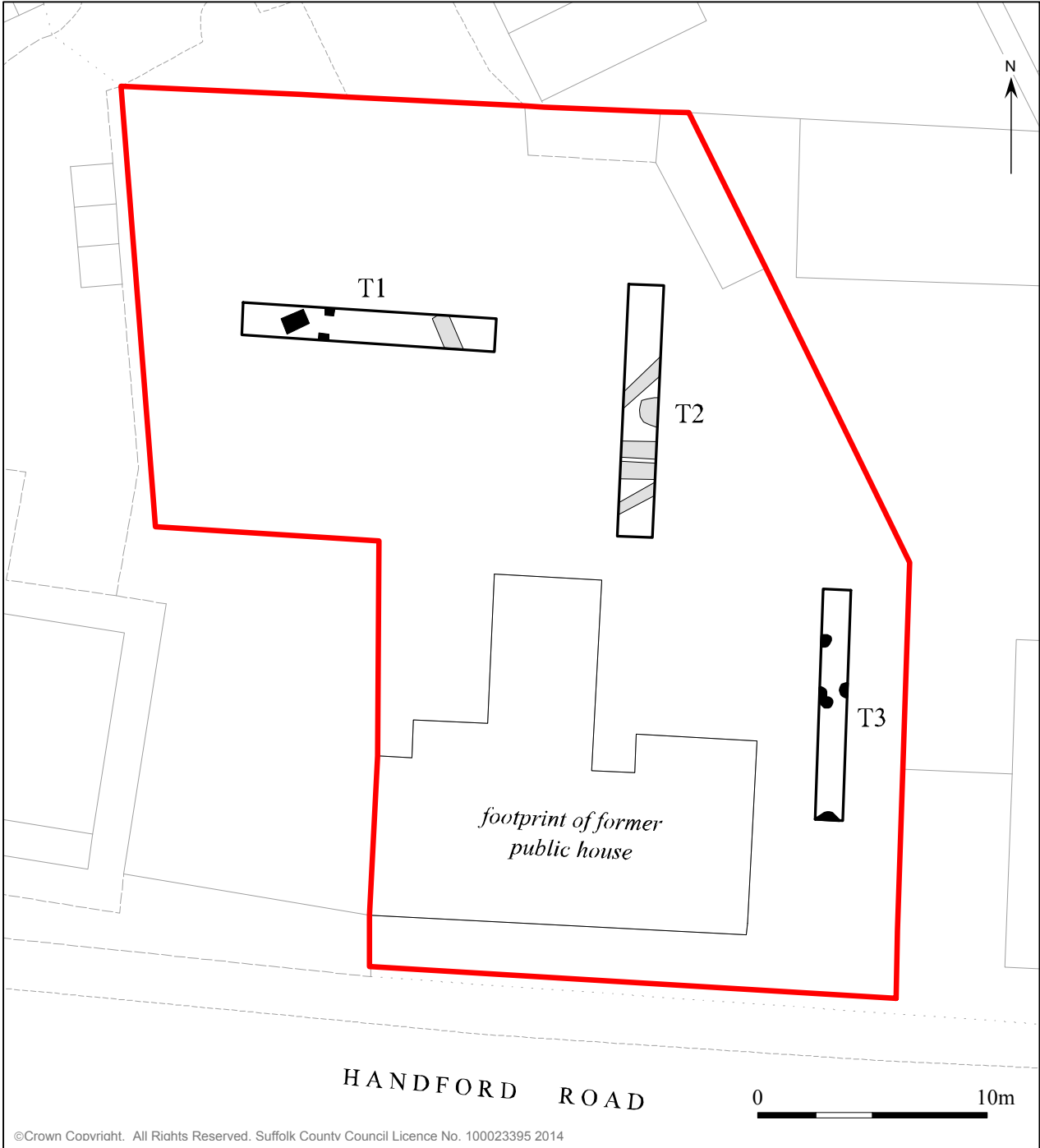


Figure 2. Trench locations and summary of recorded features (archaeological features in black, modern intrusions in grey)

## 4. Results

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A single trench, 10m in length, was excavated in the area to the east of the former public house. Within this trench five archaeological features were recorded. Figure 2 depicts the location of this trench (T3) and a summary of the features recorded within. The locations of the previous evaluation trenches (T1 and T2), and a summary of the features they contained, are also marked. Figure 3 comprises a detailed plan of the features recorded in Trench 3; the sections are presented in Figure 4.

The overburden removed by machine comprised the existing tarmac surface and an underlying formation deposit of yellow-brown sand. This overlay a layer of broken bricks and crushed mortar (0016) which in turn sealed a layer of dark rich loam (0017) that contained very infrequent fragments of red brick and tile. This lower layer appeared to seal all five of the excavated features (visible in Plates 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7).

At the southern end of the trench sections of *in-situ* brickwork survived (Plate 1). These were partly cut into the surface of the dark loam (0017) and were sealed by the brick rubble layer (0016). They comprised two short parallel lengths of closely spaced wall bases which met a perpendicular, and slightly more substantial, wall base situated approximately 1.5m from the southern end of the trench and aligned roughly east west (as depicted in Fig. 3).

Below these deposits lay a natural subsoil of yellow sand and gravel, the upper surface of which was slightly discoloured and in places comprised of fine stones and grit with very little sand. At the southern end of the trench the subsoil was encountered at a depth of 0.7m below the tarmac surface whilst at the northern end it was 0.8m below. This variation was due to ground surface sloping up slightly from the level of Handford Road rather than a slope in the level of the natural subsoil.

### **The features:**

Feature 0018, interpreted as a pit or possible posthole, located at and beyond the southern end of the trench (Plates 3 and 4). The visible portion suggested a square or rectangular shaped feature with rounded corners that had dimensions in excess of 0.6m by 0.6m. The feature cut the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.65m. The sides were near

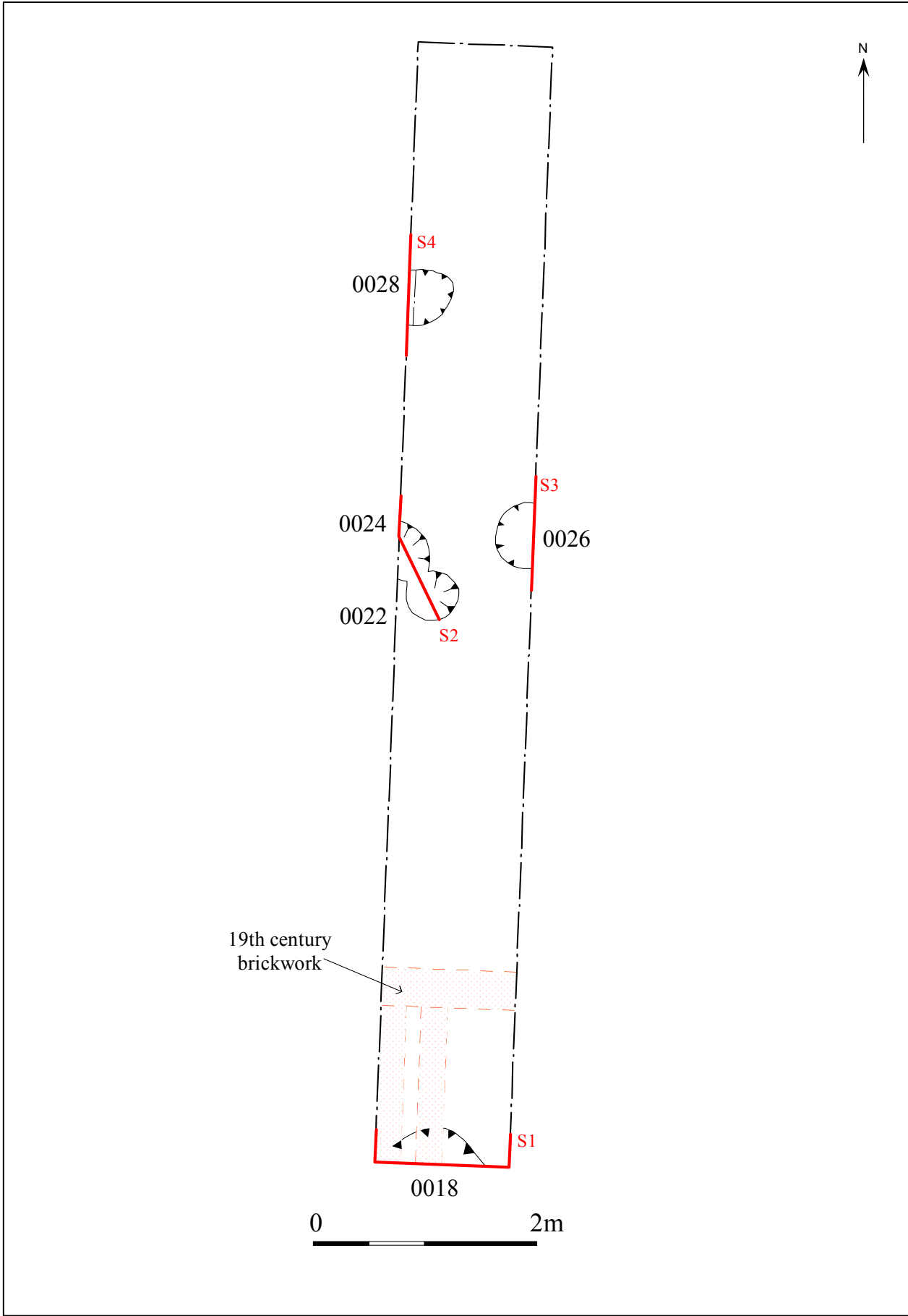


Figure 3. Plan of Trench 3

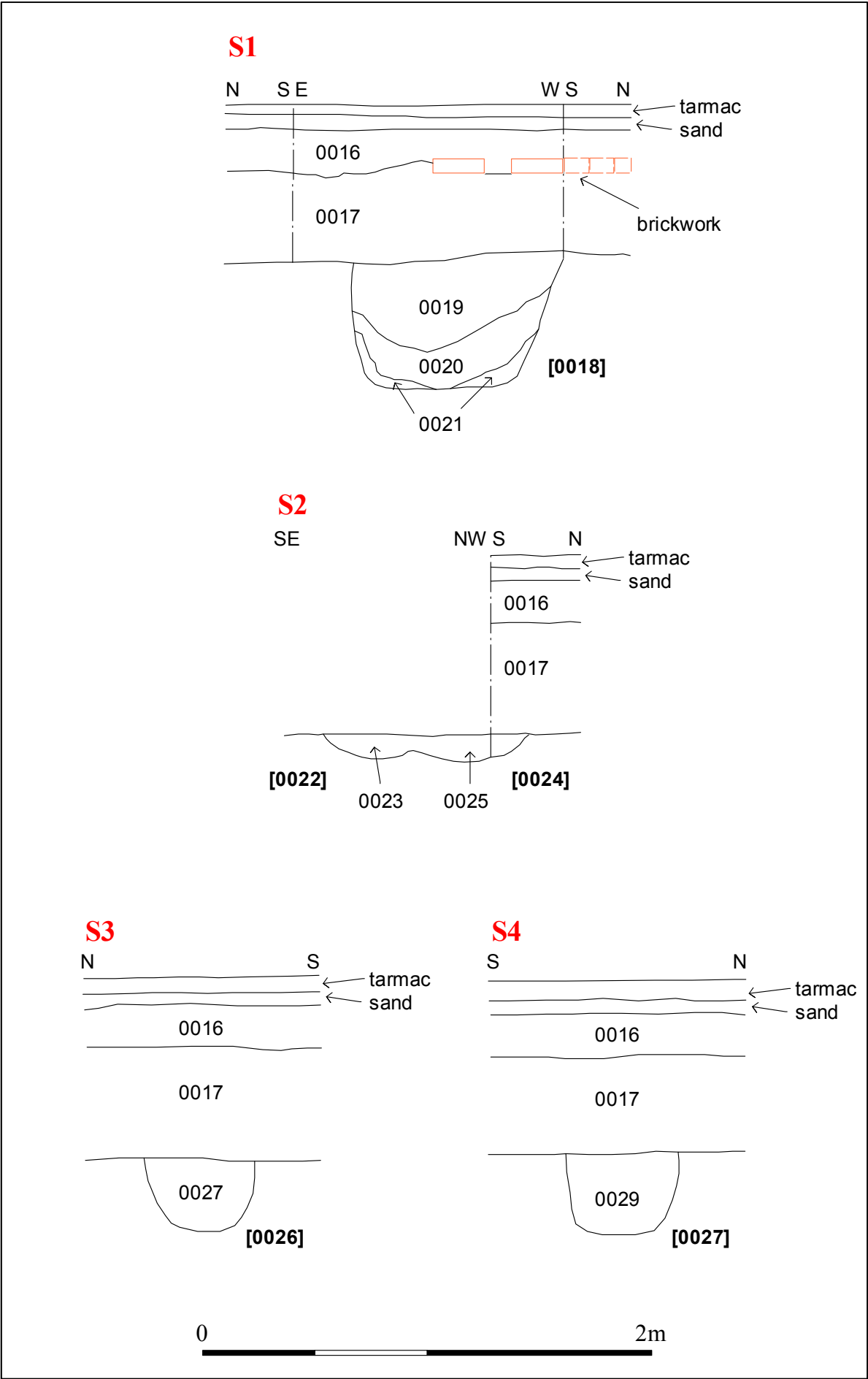


Figure 4. Sections



vertical and the base was flat (the apparently sloping western edge as seen in S1 is due to the excavated section not being exactly vertical). Three fills were evident. The primary fill (0021) comprised a very stony brown-yellow sand which was interpreted as redeposited natural subsoil that had slumped during or immediately after the original excavation of the feature. This was overlain by a deposit of grey-brown sand (0020) beneath the upper fill of mid brown silty sand (0019) from which a moderate amount of Roman tile and a single sherd of pottery was recovered. Features 0022 and 0024 consisted of a pair of similar circular shaped cuts with bowl shaped profiles (Plate 5). Each measured approximately 0.5m in diameter and 0.12m deep. The fills of both (0023 and 0025) comprised mid to dark brown silty sand from which no finds were recovered. Although the features partially overlapped no relationship was visible between these two cuts.

Feature 0026, a probable posthole or small pit located on the eastern edge of the trench (Plate 6). The visible portion suggested it comprised a near sub-circular cut, approximately 0.6m in diameter, which cut the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.34m. The sides of the cut were near vertical down to a flat base. The fill (0027) consisted of a mid to dark brown silty sand from which no finds were recovered.

Feature 0028, a probable posthole or small pit located on the western edge of the trench (Plate 7). The visible portion suggested it comprised a near sub-circular cut, approximately 0.5m in diameter, which cut the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.32m. The sides of the cut were steep to near vertical down to a slightly dished base. The fill (0029) consisted of a mid to dark brown silty sand from which no finds were recovered.

## 6. Finds and environmental evidence

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Cathy Tester (October 2014 )

### 6.1 Introduction

Finds were recovered from a single context, the upper fill of pit 0018 in Evaluation Trench 3. The quantities by material type are shown in Table 1.

Find type	No	Wt/g	Date
Pottery	1	14	Roman
CBM	9	310	Roman
Animal bone	1	2	

Table 1. Finds quantities

### 6.2 Roman pottery

A single sherd (14g) of Roman pottery made in Black-surfaced ware fabric (BSW) was identified. It is a rim fragment from a jar lid with a diameter of 200mm. The form is not closely datable and could range from the late 1st to 4th century.

### 6.3 Ceramic building material (CBM)

Nine fragments of Roman tile weighing 310g were recovered. They have been quantified by count and weight, fabric and form. Fabric codes were assigned from the Suffolk CBM fabric types (available in archive) which are based on the coarseness of the sandy matrix and the main inclusions. The descriptions are shown in Table 2 below.

Fabric	Form	No	Wt (g)	Thick	Notes
msfe	TEG	1	175	24	Flanged. Ht of flange=45mm, W 39mm. With voids, streaked. Occasional natural flint inclusions
msfe	?TEG	1	21	26	
msfe	?TEG	1	13	25	
msfe	?TEG	1	45	25	Void, burnt
msfe	RBT	1	15		1 flat surface +clay pellets
mscp	RBT	1	10		
msfe	RBT	1	14		Streaked, 1 flat surface
fscp	RBT	2	17		Some ferrous inc. 1 flat surf

Table 2. CBM quantities by fabric and form

Key: msfe = medium sand and ferrous inclusions, mscp = medium sand and clay pellets, fscp = fine sand and clay pellets

A flanged fragment of Roman roofing tile, a *tegula* (TEG) was recovered. The flange has a height of 45mm and a rounded profile. The 'face' of the tile is c. 24mm thick. Three more possible *tegula* fragments (?TEG) with thicknesses of 25mm and 26mm are also present. The rest of the pieces are less diagnostic and could only be broadly identified as Roman (RBT).

### **6.3 Animal Bone**

A small fragment of animal bone weighing 2g was also recovered.

### **6.4 Discussion of material evidence**

Datable finds from Evaluation Trench 3 include pottery and roofing tile which provide more evidence of activity on this site during the Roman period. They are similar to the pottery and CBM collected from Evaluation Trench 1 (Tester 2013).

## **7. Discussion**

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The excavation of this additional trench indicates that at least one Roman feature, 0018, survives in this area of the site. The four other features are undated although their fills were not dissimilar to the upper fill of feature 0018 and the fact they were sealed by the overlying buried topsoil layer (0017) would indicate that they are not modern intrusions.

Based on their size, the undated features are probably postholes but they do not form any obvious patterns that could relate to a single structure. The dated feature is larger and may be a pit although its dimensions are comparable with some of the large posthole features recorded on the nearby multi-period site (HER ref. IPS 280). The features recorded on this site suggest the occupied area recorded in the adjacent excavation extends to the northeast.

This area of the site has clearly not suffered from the same degree of truncation as seen in Trench 2 during the previous phase of evaluation. Although no obvious Roman occupation layer, such as that recorded in Trench 1, was present it is possible that the areas of discoloured and stony subsoil could be a surviving remnant.

The *in-situ* brickwork noted at the southern end of the trench coincidental with a pair of terrace houses and comprises the rear wall and probably the dividing walls between the two dwellings, as depicted in Figure 5. There was no indication of a cellar suggesting the cellar associated with the former public house was a later creation inserted during remodelling work. On the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 5) the public house only occupies the western pair of houses on this site.

## **8. Conclusions and recommendations for further work**

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The evaluation has indicated that the archaeological levels in this area of the site have not been destroyed and that archaeological features are indeed present. Consequently some form of further work is likely to be required, such as a monitored strip and map exercise of at least the proposed building's footprint and any other areas where groundwork is liable to penetrate through to the archaeological levels. The final decision regarding any further archaeological work is at the discretion of the County Conservation Team.

## **9. Archive deposition**

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Historic Environment Record reference under which the archive is held: IPS 716.

Digital archive can be found on the SCC servers at the following location:

*R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Archive\  
Ipswich\IPS 716 Evaluation (110-112 Handford Rd, former 3 Jolly Sailors)*

Digital photographs are held under the references HWS 69 to HWS 88

A summary has been entered into OASIS, the online database, ref. suffolkc1-194153

## **10. Acknowledgements**

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The evaluation was carried out by Mark Sommers, from the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Field Team. Finds identification was undertaken by Cathy Tester.

The project was directed by Mark Sommers and managed by Dr Rhodri Gardner, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

## 11. Bibliography

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- Meredith, J. (2013), *Archaeological Evaluation Report: 110-112 Handford Road, former Three Jolly Sailors PH, Ipswich, IPS 716*, unpublished report (SCCAS Report No. 2013/067)
- Tester, C. (2013), 'Finds and environmental evidence' in *Archaeological Evaluation Report: 110-112 Handford Road, former Three Jolly Sailors PH, Ipswich, IPS 716*, unpublished report (SCCAS Report No. 2013/067)

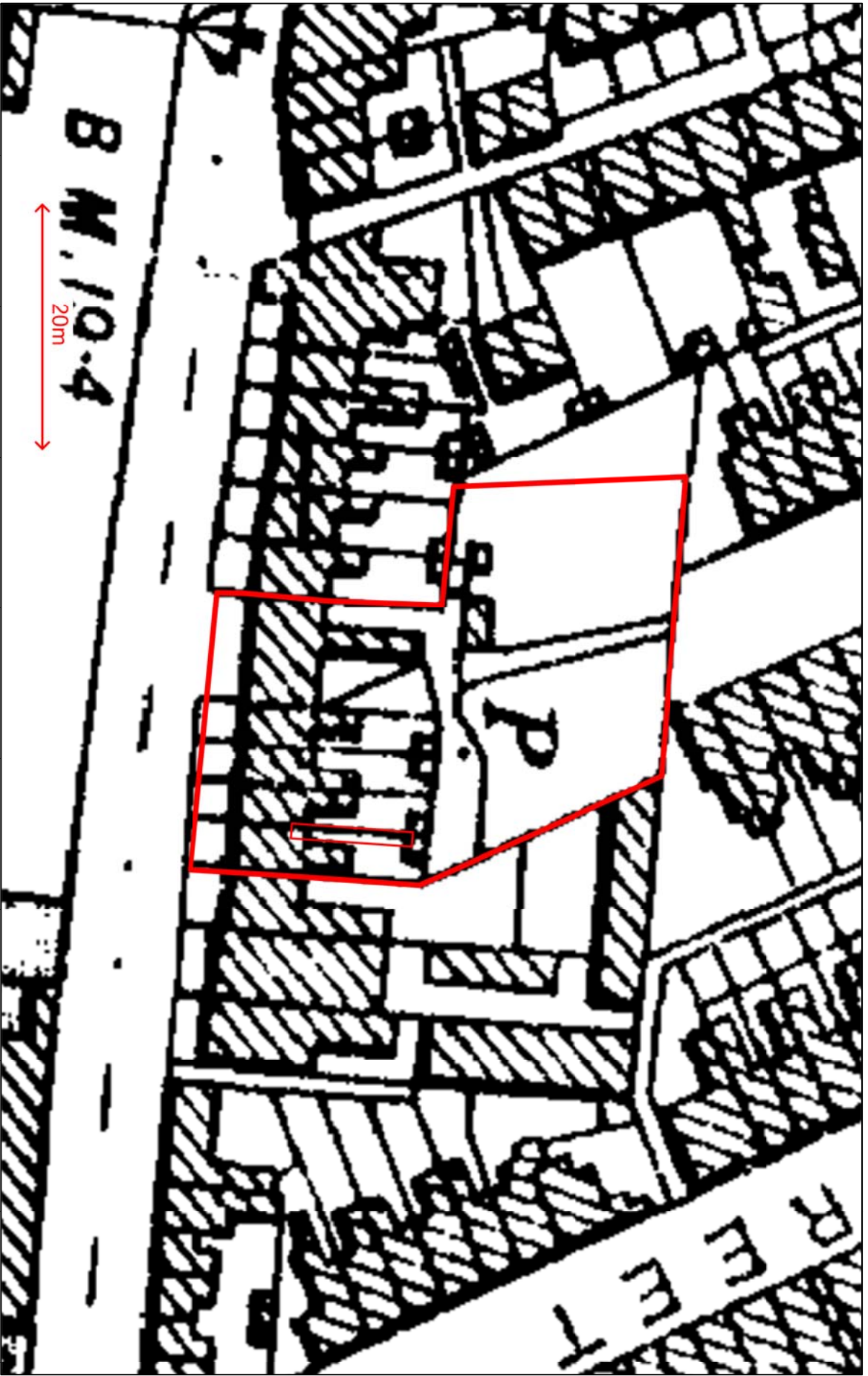


Figure 5. 2nd Ed. Ordnance Survey 1:2500 scale sheet of 1904 (rescaled extract); the development area and trench are marked in red



# Plates

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Plate 1. 19th century wall bases in southern end of the trench (ref. HWS 69)



Plate 2. Brickwork and general view of overburden in southern end of the trench (ref. HWS 71)





Plate 3. Pit 0018, prior to excavation, north to top (ref. HWS 73)



Plate 4. Pit 0018, camera facing south (ref. HWS 76)





Plate 5. Postholes 0022 and 0024, camera facing southwest (ref. HWS 78)



Plate 6. Posthole 0026, camera facing east (ref. HWS 81)





Plate 7. Posthole 0028, camera facing northwest (ref. HWS 85)



Plate 8. General view of Trench 3, camera facing north (ref. HWS 88)

## Appendix 1. Context List

Context Number	Feature Number	Feature Type	Description	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts
0016		Layer	layer of brick rubble and crushed mortar, some in-situ brickwork at southern end of trench	0017			
0017		Layer	Dark brown silty loam with occasional small stones (rounded and angular) and very infrequent fragments of red brick and tile. The 19th century wall bases are partly cut into this layer.		0016		
0018	0018	Pit Cut	Feature cut located in and beyond the southern end of the trench. Visible portion suggests a square or rectangular cut with rounded corners. Near vertical sides down to what is probably a flat base.		0017		
0019	0018	Pit Fill	upper fill of mid brown silty sand with frequent stone pebbles and angular flint	0020	0017		
0020	0018	Pit Fill	lower fill of grey brown sand with stone/gravel	0021	0019		
0021	0018	Pit Fill	basal fill of pit 0018. Consists of pale brown-yellow sand, very stony		0020		
0022	0022	Posthole Cut	Small circular, bowl shaped cut. Adjacent to/overlaps? Cut 0024 - relationship unclear		0017		
0023	0022	Posthole Fill	mid to dark brown silty sand		0017		
0024	0024	Posthole Cut	Small circular, bowl shaped cut. Adjacent to/overlaps? Cut 0022 - relationship unclear		0017		
0025	0024	Posthole Fill	mid to dark brown silty sand		0017		
0026	0026	Pit Cut	Small, probably circular shaped feature cut on edge of trench. Very steep sides down to a flat base		0017		
0027	0026	Pit Fill	mid to dark brown silty sand		0017		
0028	0028	Pit Cut	Small, probably sub-circular shaped feature cut on edge of trench. Very steep sides down to a flattish base		0017		
0029	0028	Pit Fill	mid to dark brown silty sand		0017		



## Appendix 2. OASIS data collection form

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**OASIS ID: suffolkc1-194153**

### Project details

Project name	IPS 716 - 110-112, Handford Road (former Three Jolly Sailors PH), Ipswich: Additional trench
Short description of the project	Additional evaluation trench excavated on site previously evaluated, due to change in proposed construction. A small number of probable potholes or pits recorded, one of which contained Roman pottery and tile
Project dates	Start: 17-10-2014 End: 04-11-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	IPS716 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	suffolkc1-192687 - OASIS form ID
Any associated project reference codes	IP/14/00218/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	PIT Roman
Monument type	POSTHOLE Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	TILE Roman
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK IPSWICH IPSWICH IPS716 - 110-112, Handford Road (former Three Jolly Sailors PH)
Study area	970.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 1535 4463 52.0575922029 1.14162962945 52 03 27 N 001 08 29 E Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team
Project director/manager	Rhodri Gardner
Project supervisor	Mark Sommers
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Physical Archive ID	IPS716
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Digital Archive ID	IPS716
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Database","GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Paper Archive ID	IPS716
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Correspondence","Plan","Report","Section"

### Project bibliography

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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Title	Archaeological Evaluation Report: 110-112, Handford Road (former Three Jolly Sailors PH), Ipswich; Additional Trenching
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