

**Foxborough Road, Lowestoft
LWT 329**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

SCCAS Report No. 2014/134

Client: Warnes and Sons Ltd

Author: Jezz Meredith

January 2015

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Foxborough Road, Lowestoft LWT 329

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Author: Jezz Meredith

Illustrator: Simon Picard

Editor: Stuart Boulter

Report Date: January 2015

HER Information

Site Code: LWT 329

Site Name: Foxborough Road, Lowestoft

Report Number 2014/134

Planning Application No: DC/13/0649/OUT
DC/13/0650/FUL

Date of Fieldwork: 1st to 3rd December 2014

Grid Reference: TM 5333 9503

Oasis Reference: Suffolk c1-196702

Curatorial Officer: Jess Tipper / Richard Hoggett

Project Officer: Jezz Meredith

Client/Funding Body: Warnes and Sons Ltd

Client Reference: n/a

Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:

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

Disclaimer

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

Prepared By: Jezz Meredith
Date: 16th January 2015

Approved By: Rhodri Gardner
Position: Contracts Manager
Date: 16th January 2015
Signed:

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken across fields forming a proposed development site adjacent to Foxborough Road, Lowestoft. In total eighteen trenches, each of c.30m length, were dug. Ground conditions were very wet with many of the trenches filling with water. Six undated ditches were identified across the site. All of these features had either peaty or organic-rich silty fills suggesting that water had stood in these ditches when they were open. Three of these ditches appeared to be at right-angles to a large post-medieval bank and ditch running east to west across the southern edge of the site and were possibly part of the same grid of field division. Other ditches were on different alignments and were probably part of an earlier system. No finds or other evidence for human activity were found either associated with the ditches or unstratified in the topsoil. Given the wet water-logged condition of these fields it is likely that this area had been used in the past for growing hay and summer pasture. It is probable that the ditches encountered were associated with either land drainage or stock management.

1. Introduction

The Field Team of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (hereafter SCCAS) were commissioned to conduct a trial trench evaluation on land off Foxborough Road, Lowestoft (Fig. 1; grid reference TM 5333 9503). The proposed development area (hereafter referred to as 'the site') consists of two rough grassed fields forming an irregular parcel of land measuring in area c.2.35 hectares. The site is crossed by a central road (Foxborough Road) dividing the site into an east and a west field. Housing is situated along the southern and western boundaries of the site with a doctor's surgery to the east and a school (Foxborough Middle School) to the north.

A 'Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation' produced by the archaeological curatorial officer Jess Tipper proposed that the site be investigated for its archaeological potential prior to it being developed for housing. The brief asked for a 5% sample by trial trenching to test for surviving archaeological deposits.

A 'Written Scheme of Investigation and Risk Assessment' written by Rhodri Gardner (Appendix 1) specified how the trenches would be arranged. Twenty trenches of 30m were proposed across the site in a grid formation (Fig. 2).

The trial trenching was conducted between the 1st and 3rd of December 2014.

The site has been given the Lowestoft reference LWT 329 within the Historic Environment Record (HER) for Suffolk.

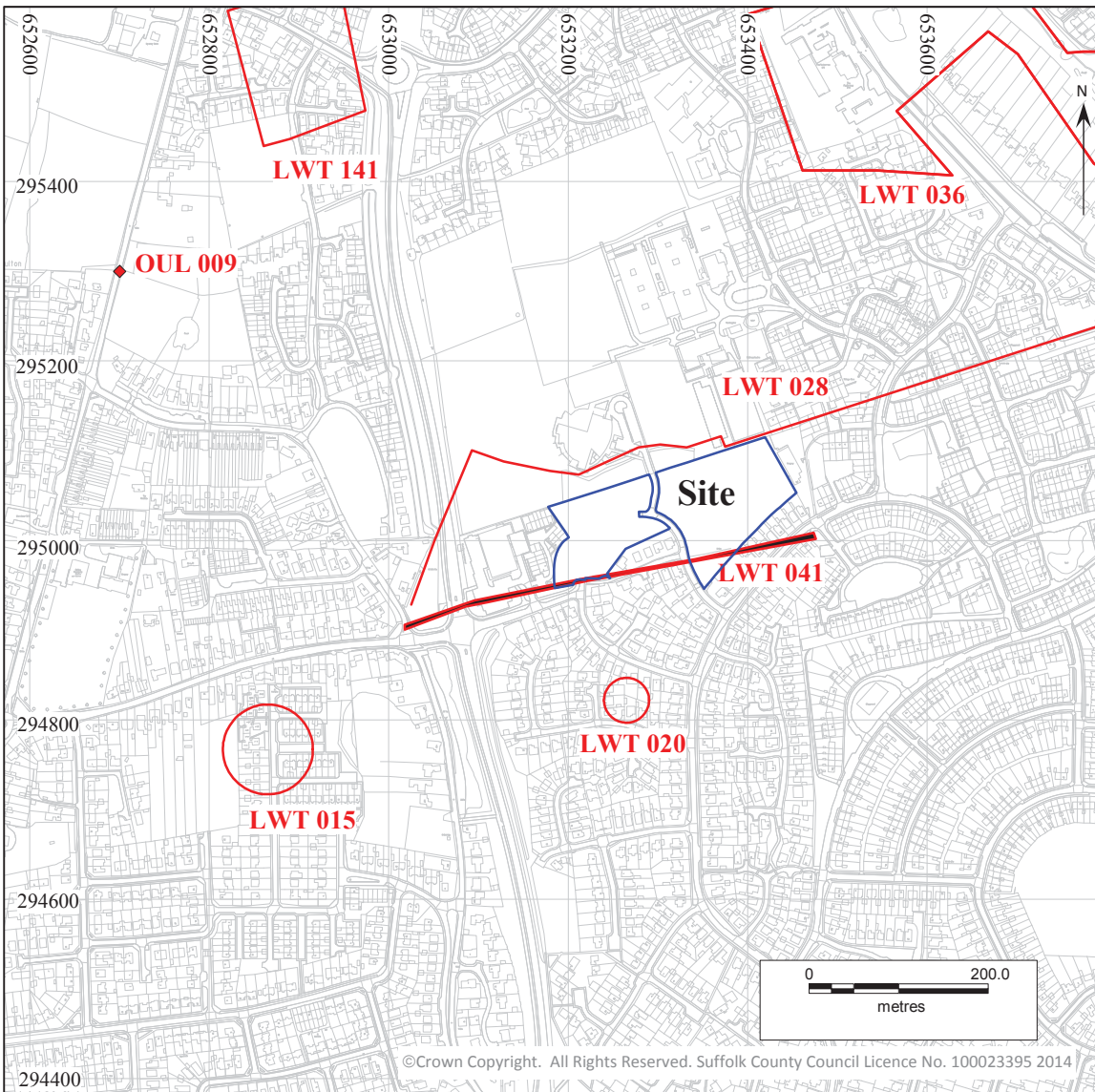
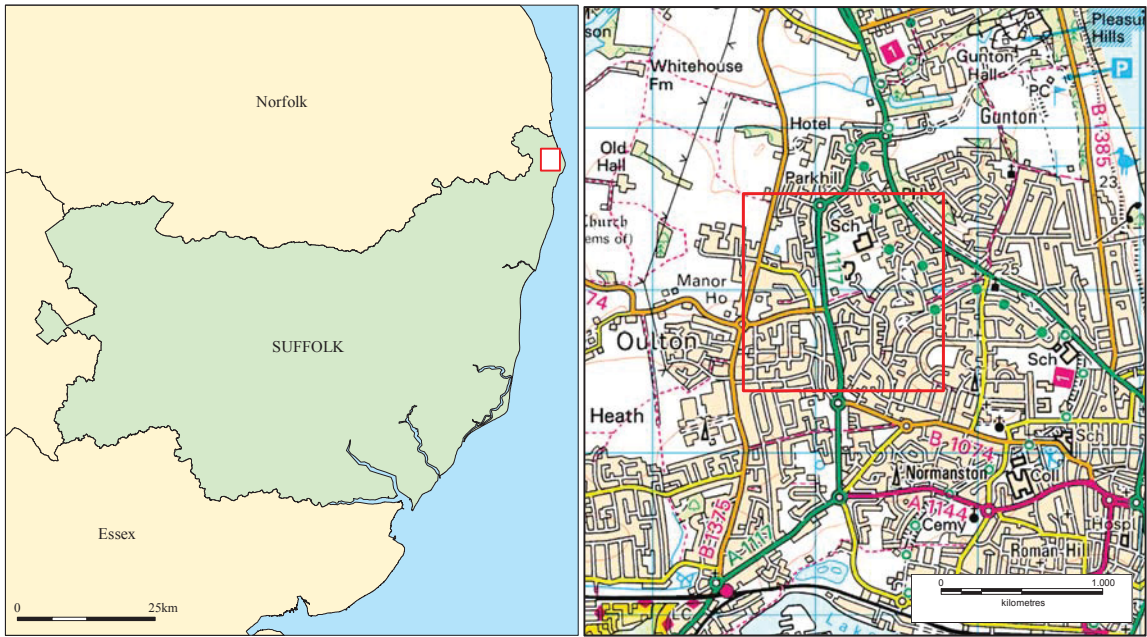


Figure 1. Site location and nearby HER entries.

2. Geology and topography

The site is located c.1.7km west of the sea, on fairly flat ground, sloping slightly down to the north and positioned just under the 25m contour. The top of most trenches was between 24m and 23mOD. The site was an irregularly shaped plot divided into eastern and western fields by the north to south running Foxborough Road (Fig. 2).

The underlying drift geology consisted of orange/yellow brown sand with frequent rounded flint gravel, probably over clay as the ground was saturated with many of the trenches holding water. Patches of clay and silt were frequently mixed with the sand and the water-logged conditions had resulted in many areas having dark mottles and patches of mineral staining.

3. Archaeology and historical background

The Historic Environment Record of Suffolk (hereafter HER) lists a number of sites of interest in the vicinity. Site LWT 329 is itself bounded to the south by a post-medieval bank (LWT 041) and to the north a medieval bank and ditch that formed the boundary for Akethorpe Manor (LWT 028).

To the west of the site at a distance of c.550m was found a large quantity of glazed pottery, possibly indicating the site of a medieval pottery kiln (OUL 009). At c.500m to the north-west is the undated site of LWT 141. Recognised through aerial photography, this appears to be a system of enclosures, trackways and ditches. To the north-east, at c.300m distance, is the site of Foxburrow Wood, an ancient woodland of at least medieval date (LWT 036).

Prehistoric remains have been identified to the south of the site. At c.150m to the south is a ring-ditch of c.10m diameter (LWT 020). This could represent the ditch around a prehistoric burial mound that has subsequently been ploughed flat. At c.350m to the south-west, site LWT 015 consisted of a scatter of Neolithic flint tools including scrapers and hammer stones.

Early editions of the Ordnance Survey map (of the 1880s, 1900s and 1920s) show the site to be within open fields with no field boundaries or ditches crossing the site.

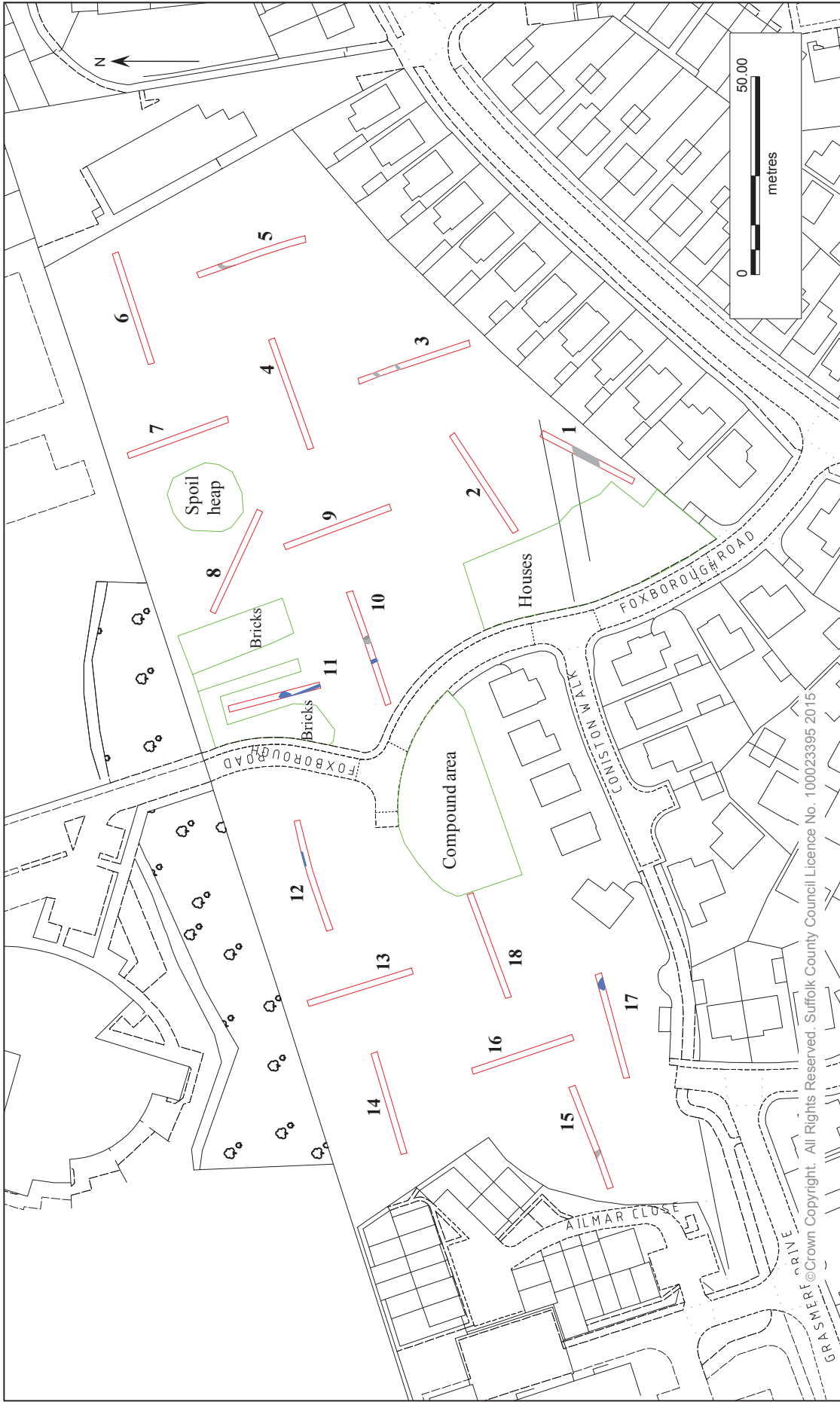


Figure 2. Trench location plan showing archaeological features (grey), modern interventions (blue) and obstructions to trenching.

4. Methodology

Trial trenches were dug in accordance with the WSI (Appendix 1) and were laid out using a RTK GPS survey unit. Several modifications had to be made to the proposed layout in order to avoid spoil heaps and brick stacks. Two trenches from the original proposal could not be dug. One along the east side of Foxborough Road was where a number of bungalows had already been built. Another trench to the west of the road could not be dug due to the contractor's compound.

Trenching was conducted using a 360° tracked digger equipped with a 1.5m wide toothless ditching bucket. The locations of the trenches are shown in Figure 2. All machining was carried out under direct archaeological observation with the topsoil removed by machine to reveal undisturbed natural sand and gravels (hereafter the 'natural') or archaeological features. The ground was wet in most areas and many trenches filled with water after excavation.

The base of each trench was examined for features and finds of archaeological interest. The upcast soil was examined visually for any archaeological finds. Records were made of the position and length of trenches and the depths of deposit encountered. Deposits and feature cuts and fills were given separate context numbers within the range 0001 to 0020 (Table 1). Many trenches were highly saturated by water so excavation and recording had to be conducted quickly before trenches filled with water.

The site was initially given the event code ESF 22566 and was subsequently given the Lowestoft archaeological site code LWT 329 within the Suffolk HER. All elements of the site archive are identified with one or other of these codes. An OASIS record (for the Archaeological Data Service) has been initiated and the reference code suffolkc1-196702 has been used for this project.

5. Results

Context numbers used are shown in Table 1, after which each trench is discussed individually. Only trenches with features are discussed in detail. All trenches were of 1.5m width. Levels were taken at each end of the trench on the top of topsoil. Features had to be dug and recorded fast before they filled with water. In the case of the large ditch in Trench 1, only preliminary measurements could be made before the whole trench became flooded.

Context	Type	Trench	Description
0001	finds	n/a	Unstratified finds (not used)
0002	layer	all	Topsoil; humic clay loam; all trenches
0003	layer	n/a	Subsoil (not present)
0004	ditch cut	3	NE-SW running gully or small ditch
0005	ditch fill	3	Dark basal fill of clay sand
0006	ditch fill	3	Upper fill of mid grey brown sandy clay
0007	ditch cut	3	NE-SW running shallow ditch
0008	ditch fill	3	Outer fill of pale grey sandy clay
0009	ditch fill	3	Main fill of mottled dark and pale grey sandy clay
0010	ditch cut	5	Curving ditch, turning from N-S to E-W
0011	ditch fill	5	Basal fill of pale grey clay sand
0012	ditch fill	5	Upper fill of dark grey brown clay sand
0013	ditch cut	10	N-S running ditch, terminating to N, re-cut of 0017
0014	ditch fill	10	Basal fill of stony pale grey peaty/clay sand
0015	ditch fill	10	Middle fill of pale grey peaty/clay sand
0016	ditch fill	10	Upper fill of dark grey peaty/clay sand
0017	ditch cut	10	N-S running ditch, terminating to N, cut by 0013
0018	ditch fill	10	Single fill of pale grey clay sand
0019	ditch cut	15	NW-SE running ditch
0020	ditch fill	15	Mottled pale and dark grey sand and peat

Table 1. Context list

Trench 1

Location: S corner of E field	Orientation: NE-SW	Trench length: 27m	Topsoil thickness: c.0.3m
Heights (at each end): 24.1mOD (SW) 24.3mOD (NE)	Natural: Grey to yellow clay sand & orange sand/gravel	Features: <i>Large E-W ditch</i>	

Large post-medieval ditch (LWT 041)

The current OS map shows a large east to west bank in the vicinity of Trench 1 (Fig. 1; LWT 041; Fig. 2, a pair of parallel lines adjacent to Trench 1 indicates the line of this earthwork). This bank is no longer present and is presumed to have been flattened by recent site clearance. A large east to west ditch was revealed within the trench (Fig. 2), along the southern edge of the bank. This feature was of c.9m width but could not be sampled or excavated due to the trench filling with water. The ditch is likely to be of post-medieval or modern date although no finds or other datable evidence was recovered from this feature.

Trench 2

Location: N of Tr. 1	Orientation: ENE-WSW	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: c.0.35m
Heights (at each end): 24.3mOD (WSW) 24.2mOD (ENE)	Natural: Orange sandy gravel with dark mottles & clay seams	Features: None	

Trench 3

Location: SE edge of E field	Orientation: NNW-SSE	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: c.0.35m
Heights (at each end): 24.0mOD (SSE) 24.1mOD (NNW)	Natural: Sand & gravel with some clay content	Features: <i>Ditch 0004</i> <i>Ditch 0007</i>	

Ditch 0004

This was a north-east to south-west running small ditch or gully with gently sloping sides and a flat base (Fig. 3). It had a width of 0.9m and depth of 0.18m. The primary fill 0005

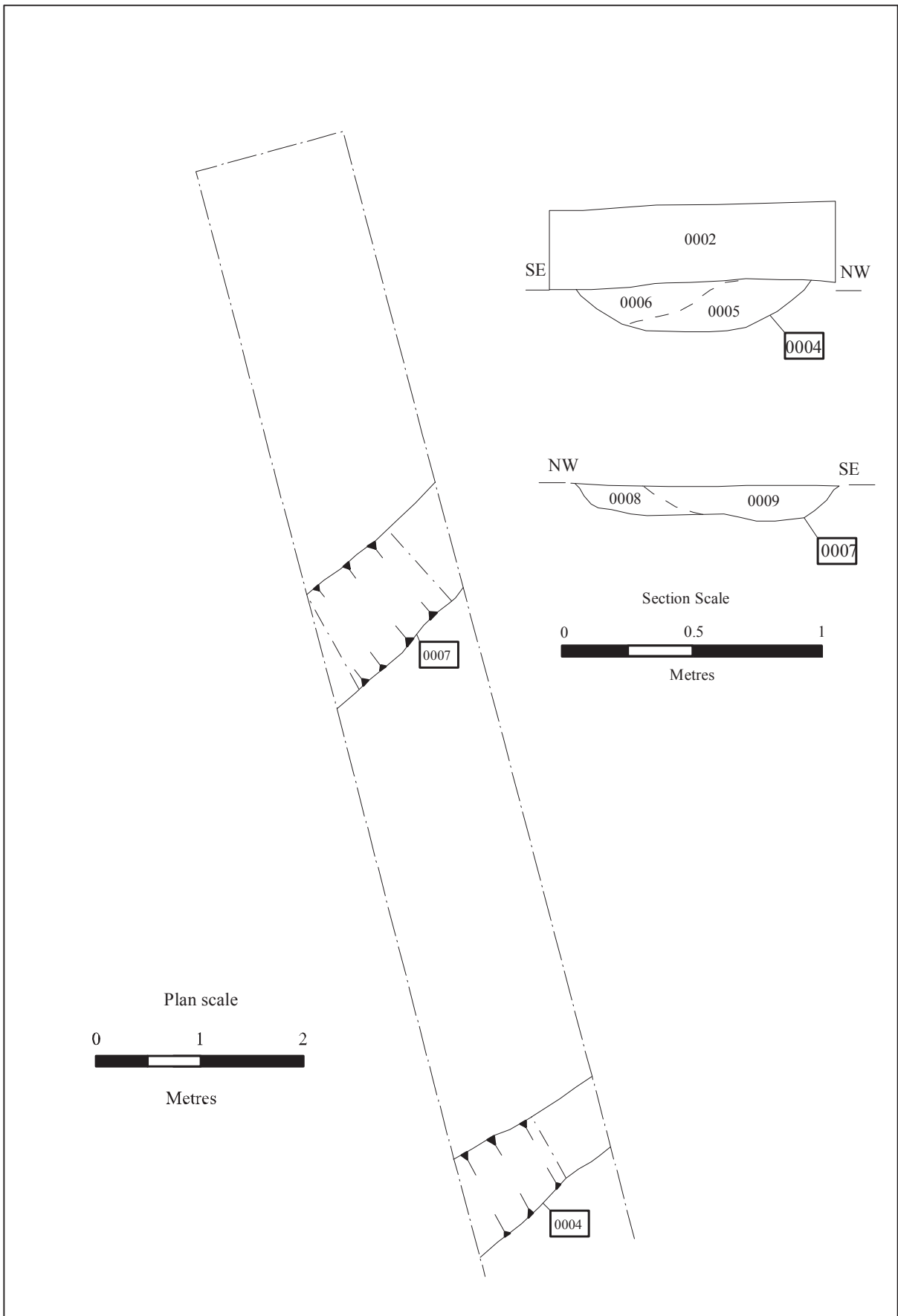


Figure 3. Trench 3, plan and section of features

was dark grey/black clay sand with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks. The upper fill 0006 was mid grey brown, soft sandy clay with occasional small flints. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Ditch 0007

This was a north-east to south-west running shallow ditch with gently sloping sides and a broad, mainly flat base (Fig. 3). It had a width of 1m and a depth of 0.14m. Fill 0008 was mainly across the NW edge of the feature and this was pale grey soft sandy clay with occasional flints. The main fill was 0009 which was mottled dark and pale grey sandy clay. No finds were recovered from these fills.

Trench 4

Location: Centre of E field	Orientation: ENE-WSW	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: 0.35m
Heights (at each end): 23.9mOD (WSW) 23.8mOD (ENE)	Natural: Orange yellow sand & gravel with clay, mottled	Features: None	

Trench 5

Location: E edge of E field	Orientation: NNW-SSE	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: 0.3m
Heights (at each end): 23.8mOD (SSE) 23.6mOD (NNW)	Natural: Orange yellow sand & gravel with clay, mottled	Features: <i>Ditch 0010</i>	

Ditch 0010

This was a curvilinear ditch running northwards before turning to the east across the width of the trench (Fig. 4). This ditch had gently sloping, slightly irregular sides with an uneven rounded base. It had a width of 0.94m and a depth of 0.2m. The primary fill was 0011 which was pale grey soft clay sand. The upper fill was 0012 which was dark grey brown clay sand with occasional small stones. No finds were recovered from these fills.

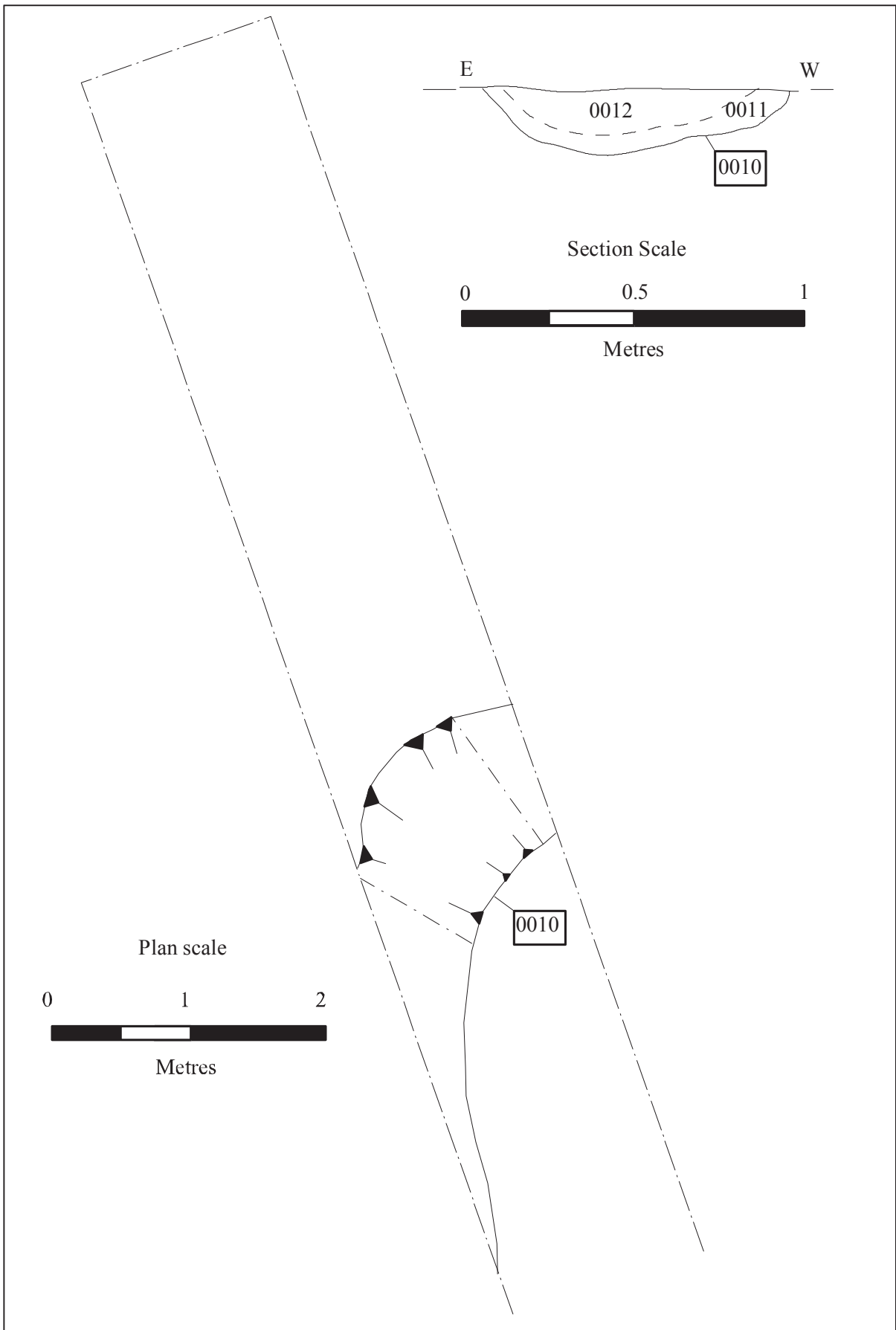


Figure 4. Trench 5 plan and section of feature

Trench 6

Location: NE corner of E field	Orientation: ENE-WSW	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: 0.3m
Heights (at each end): 23.3mOD (WSW) 23.2mOD (ENE)	Natural: Orange yellow sand & gravel with clay, mottled	Features: None	

Trench 7

Location: N edge of E field	Orientation: NNW-SSE	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: 0.4m (NNW end) 0.3-0.35m elsewhere
Heights (at each end): 23.6mOD (SSE) 23.3mOD (NNW)	Natural: Yellow orange sandy clay coarse gravel	Features: None	

Trench 8

Location: W of Tr. 7	Orientation: NW-SE	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: 0.25m
Heights (at each end): 23.6mOD (SE) 23.4mOD (NW)	Natural: Sand & gravel with clay	Features: None	

Trench 9

Location: W of Tr. 8	Orientation: NNW-SSE	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: 0.3 – 0.35m
Heights (at each end): 24.1mOD (SSE) 23.8mOD (NNW)	Natural: Sandy clay with gravel	Features: None	

Trench 10

Location: W edge of E field	Orientation: ENE-WSW	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: 0.45m (WSW) 0.25-0.3m elsewhere
Heights (at each end): 23.9mOD (WSW) 23.8mOD (ENE)	Natural: Sand & gravel with clay & mottles	Features: <i>Ditch 0013</i> <i>Ditch 0017</i> Modern service trench	

Ditch 0013

This was a north to south running ditch appearing to terminate towards the north (Fig. 5). Ditch 0013 cut the fills of ditch 0017 and was likely to be a recut of this ditch. This feature had steep sloping, slightly concave sides with a rounded base. It was 1.1m wide and 0.5m deep. The primary fill was 0014 was pale grey peaty clay sand with frequent small and medium stones. Above this was the middle fill of 0015 which was very similar to 0014 but without the abundant stone content. The upper fill 0016 was dark grey peaty clay sand with occasional flints. No finds were recovered from these fills.

Ditch 0017

This was also a north to south running ditch appearing to terminate towards the north. Ditch 0017 was highly truncated by 0013 across its western edge (Fig.5). This was shallower than and not as deep as its recut 0013 and was over 1m wide and 0.32m deep. The single fill 0018 was pale grey firm clay sand with darker grey mottles of peaty sand. No finds were found associated with this feature.

Trench 11

Location: NW corner of E field	Orientation: NNW-SSE	Trench length: 25m	Topsoil thickness: 0.35m (under 0.1m hardcore)
Heights (at each end): 23.6mOD (SSE) 23.4mOD (NNW)	Natural: Sand & gravel with clay & silty patches	Features: Modern interventions only	

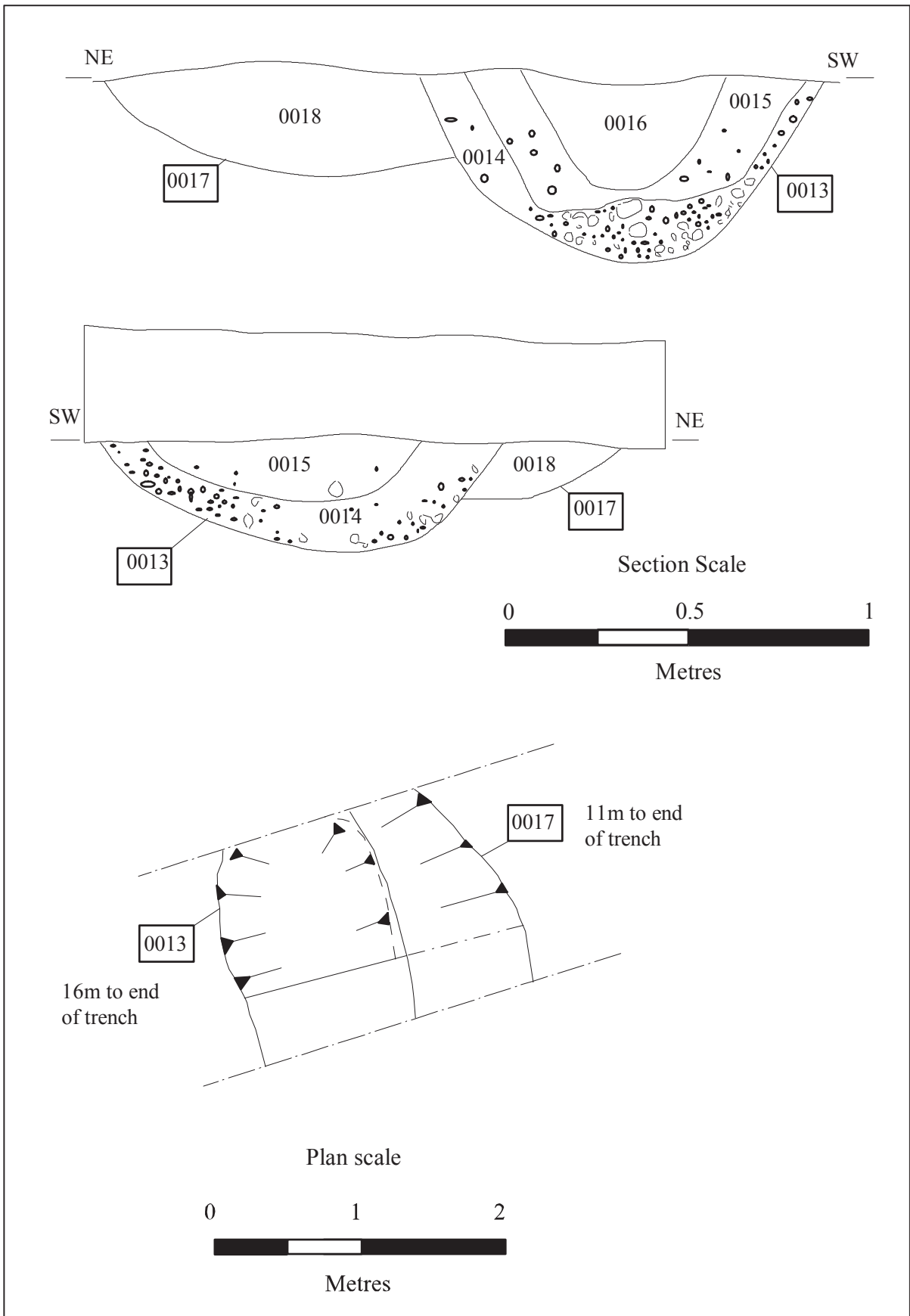


Figure 5. Trench 10, plan and sections of features

Trench 12

Location: NE corner of W field	Orientation: ENE-WSW	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: 0.35m
Heights (at each end): 23.2mOD (WSW) 23.2mOD (ENE)	Natural: Sand & gravel with some clay content	Features: Modern intervention only	

Trench 13

Location: N edge of W field	Orientation: NNW-SSE	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: 0.35m
Heights (at each end): 23.4mOD (SSE) 22.8mOD (NNW)	Natural: Mainly sand with some gravel & clay	Features: None	

Trench 14

Location: NW corner of W field	Orientation: ENE-WSW	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: 0.35-0.4m
Heights (at each end): 23.0mOD (WSW) 23.1mOD (ENE)	Natural: Silty clay yellow sand with grey flecking	Features: None	

Trench 15

Location: W end of W field	Orientation: ENE-WSW	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: 0.5m (WSW) 0.35-0.4m elsewhere
Heights (at each end): 24.2mOD (WSW) 23.8mOD (ENE)	Natural: Yellow orange silty sand with mottling	Features: <i>Ditch 0019</i>	

Ditch 0019

This was a north-west to south-east running feature with an asymmetric profile with a gently sloping north-eastern edge and a steeper south-western side. The slightly rounded base sloped down towards the south-west. This ditch was 1.2m wide and 0.3m

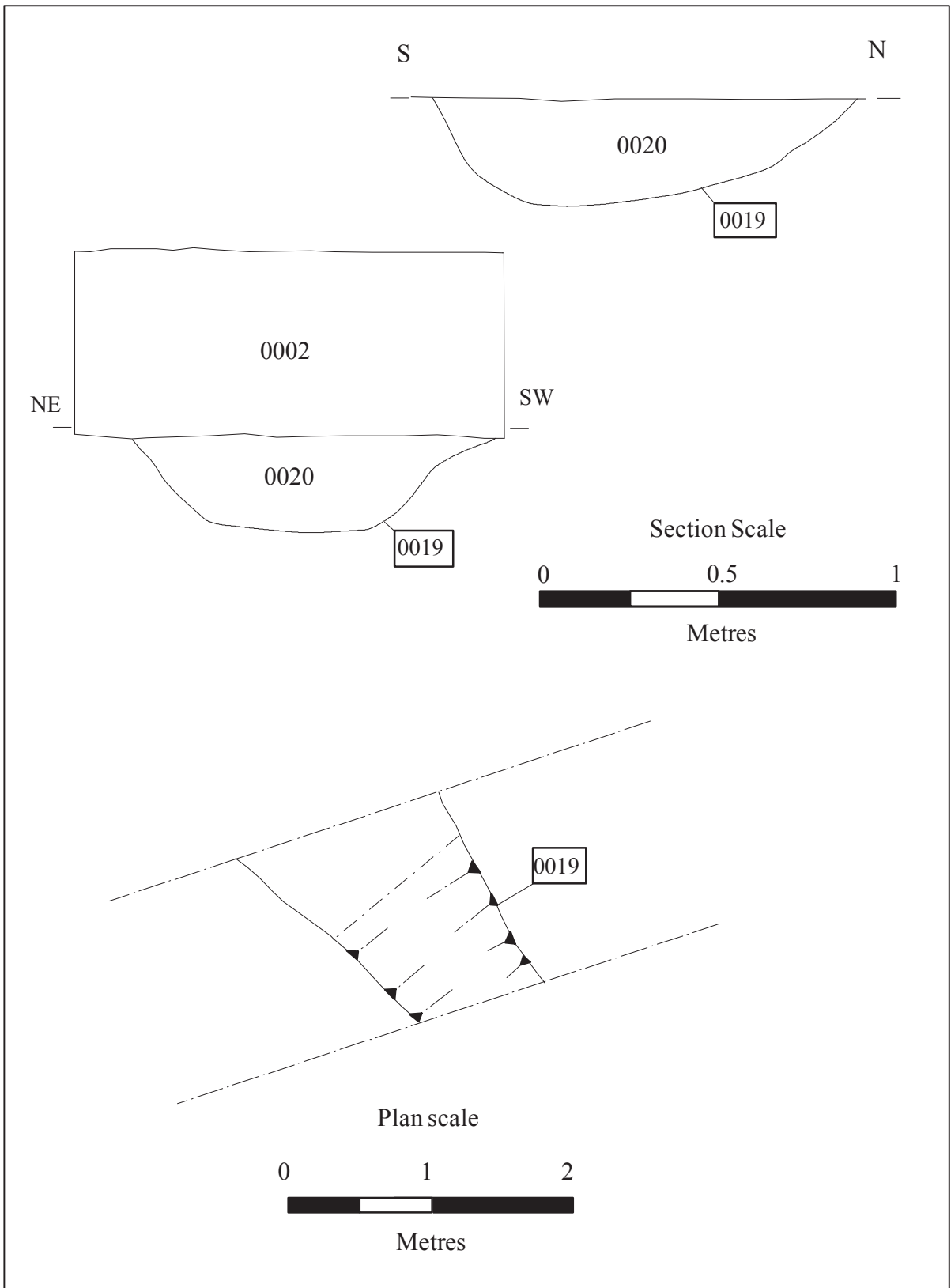


Figure 6. Trench 15, plan and section of feature

deep. Fill 0020 was mottled dark grey peaty sand and pale grey silty sand. No finds were recovered from this fill.

Trench 16

Location: E of Tr. 15	Orientation: NNW-SSE	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: 0.3-0.4m
Heights (at each end): 23.6mOD (SSE) 23.4mOD (NNW)	Natural: Yellow orange silty sand with mottling	Features: None	

Trench 17

Location: S edge of W field	Orientation: ENE-WSW	Trench length: 30m	Topsoil thickness: 0.35-0.4m (some modern build-up)
Heights (at each end): 24.2mOD (WSW) 23.9mOD (ENE)	Natural: Yellow orange sand with frequent mottles	Features: Modern intervention	

Trench 18

Location: Centre of W field	Orientation: ENE-WSW	Trench length: 28m	Topsoil thickness: 0.25m (under 0.15m hardcore)
Heights (at each end): 23.7mOD (WSW) 23.6mOD (ENE)	Natural: Highly mixed mottled sand, gravel & some silt	Features: None	

6. Conclusions and recommendations for further work

An obvious aspect of the site has been the level of water-logging of the ground and the low-lying saturated nature of the site, although conducting the fieldwork in December after a wet autumn might well have aggravated this situation. These conditions do suggest however that the site would only be usable by past populations during the dryer times of the year. The paucity of archaeological features across the site and the complete absence of archaeologically significant finds from either the features or from the topsoil suggest that the site had been little used for human settlement or other more intensive activity. That is not to say that the site had not been utilised and it is likely that such land could have been highly prized for growing hay and for summer pasture.

A number of ditches were identified spaced sparsely across the site. All features had either peaty or silty organic fills suggesting that all these ditches contained static water during their use and that similar wet ground conditions persisted in the past. None of these features contained dating evidence, although some might be related to post-medieval field boundaries.

A large post-medieval bank had previously been recorded running across the south side of the site (Fig.1: LWT 041) although this earthwork has now been flattened. Excavation across Trench 1 showed that a large water-logged ditch ran along the south side of this bank. Features in Trenches 10 (ditches 0013 and 0017) and in Trench 15 (ditch 0019) appear to run roughly north to south and could be running at right-angles to the large Trench 1 ditch. The post-medieval ditch and bank might have been related to drainage and water-management in this area and the smaller ditches running northwards might have been minor field boundaries relating to the sub-division of paddocks or for drainage.

The features in Trench 3 (ditches 0004 and 0007) appear to be on a different grid from the putative post-medieval system. They appeared to be roughly parallel and might possibly have been either side of a trackway, although if they had persisted on these alignments they should have been seen in Trenches 2 and 5. Ditch 0010 in Trench 5 appeared to be an interesting curvilinear feature, suggesting a cornering ditch of a potential enclosure. No finds or other indications of habitation were found in this area so

an enclosure for settlement or other intensive use seems unlikely; indeed this was one of the wettest areas of the site.

It appears probable that the area of the site has low potential for the discovery of further archaeologically significant features, deposits or finds. The ditches encountered are likely to belong to minor field boundaries and are probably associated with either land drainage or stock management, some of which could be post-medieval others are undated. Therefore it is recommended that no further archaeological investigations be carried out at this site.

7. Archive deposition

Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Ipswich

Digital archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Archive\Lowestoft\LWT 329 Foxborough Rd eval

Digital photographic archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Catalogues\Photos\HXA-HXZ\HXV 28-56

Finds and environmental archive: n/a

8. Acknowledgements

Fieldwork was carried out by Preston Beales, Simon Picard and Jezz Meredith with management support from Rhodri Gardner. Simon Picard also laid out trenches and surveyed the site by GPS.

SCCAS are grateful to the assistance provided by Warnes, particularly to Jake who drove the digger, Tony the foreman and to the architect Bernard Warnes.

Stuart Boulter kindly checked an earlier draft of this report.

The report illustrations were created by Simon Picard.

Appendix 1. Written Scheme of Investigation

Land off Foxborough Road, Lowestoft

Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trench

**Written Scheme of Investigation
&
Safety Statement and Risk Assessment**

**Prepared by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
November 2014**

Document Control

Title: Land off Foxborough Road, Lowestoft
Date: 26/11/2014
Issued by: Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Field Team
Author: Rhodri Gardner
Issued to: SCCAS Conservation Team

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3. Archaeological Method Statement
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1. Background

1.1 The Field Team of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) have been asked by Warnes and Sons Ltd to prepare documentation for a programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trench at the above site (Fig 1). This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) covers the trenched evaluation only. Any further stages of archaeological work that might be required in relation to the proposed development would be subject to new documentation.

1.2 The site covers c. 2.35ha, located at NGR TM 533 950.

1.3 The work is to be undertaken at the pre-determination stage. This is at the request of the local planning authority, following guidance set out in the National Planning Policy Framework.

1.4 The archaeological investigation will be conducted in accordance with a Brief produced by Dr Jess Tipper of the SCCAS Conservation Team.

1.5 The site's archaeological potential has been summarised in a desk-based assessment commissioned for the same client some time ago in 1999 (SCCAS Report No. 99/49). It lies adjacent to the medieval boundary of Akethorp Manor (LWT 028) and close to a findspot of Neolithic date (LWT 015).

1.6 The proposed development involves the construction of mixed housing (58 units).

1.7 The site outline and trial trench locations are shown in Figure 2. Deposits in this area will be directly affected by the foundations and other groundworks associated with the development.

1.8 This WSI complies with the requirements of SCC's standard Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation (2012 Ver 1.1), as well as the following national and regional guidance 'Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation' (IFA, 1995, revised 2001) and 'Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (EAA Occasional Papers 14, 2003).

1.1 Research aims

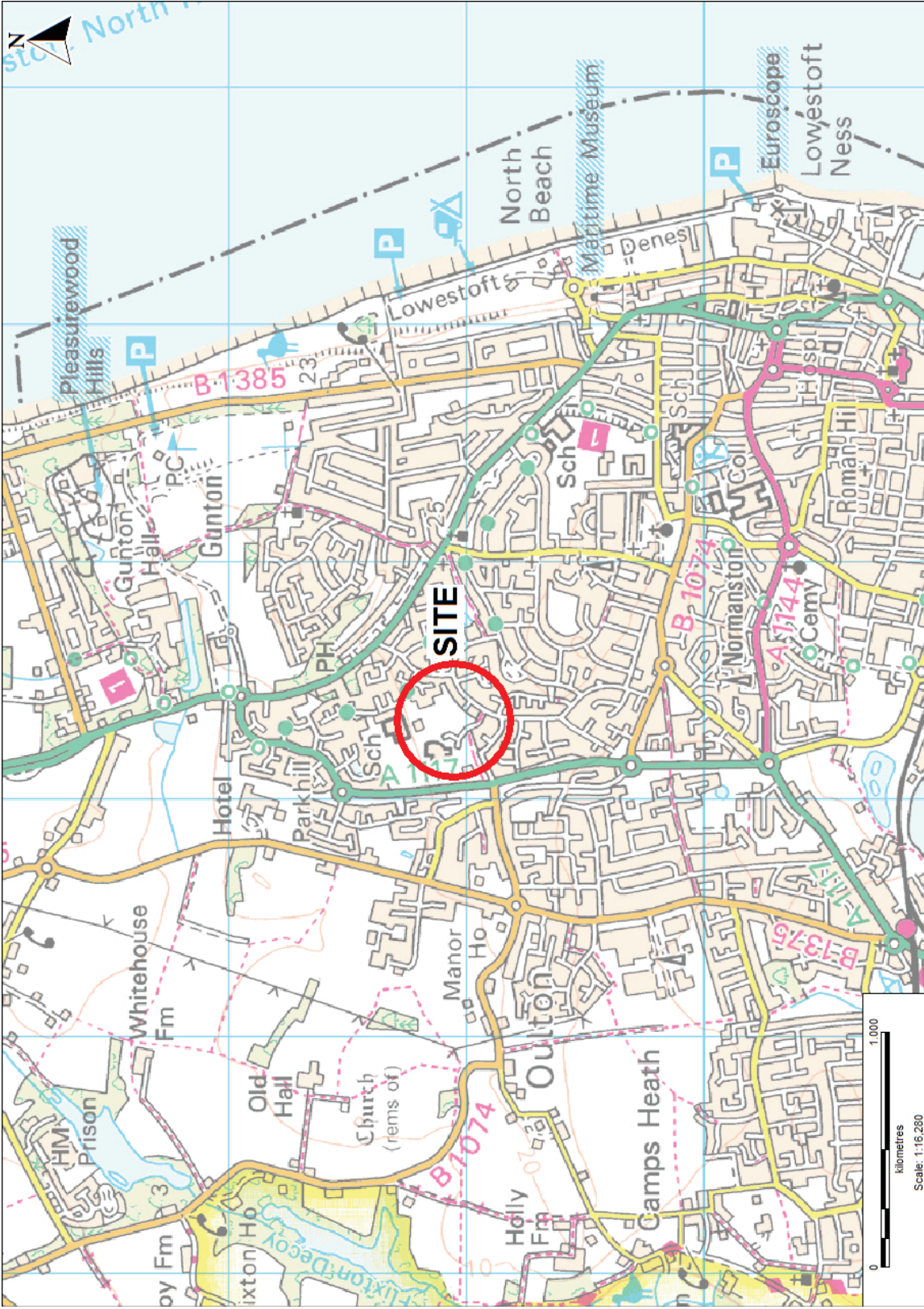
The research aims of this trial trench evaluations are as follows, as described in Section 3.2 of the SCCAS Conservation Team brief:

RA1: 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.

RA2: Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.

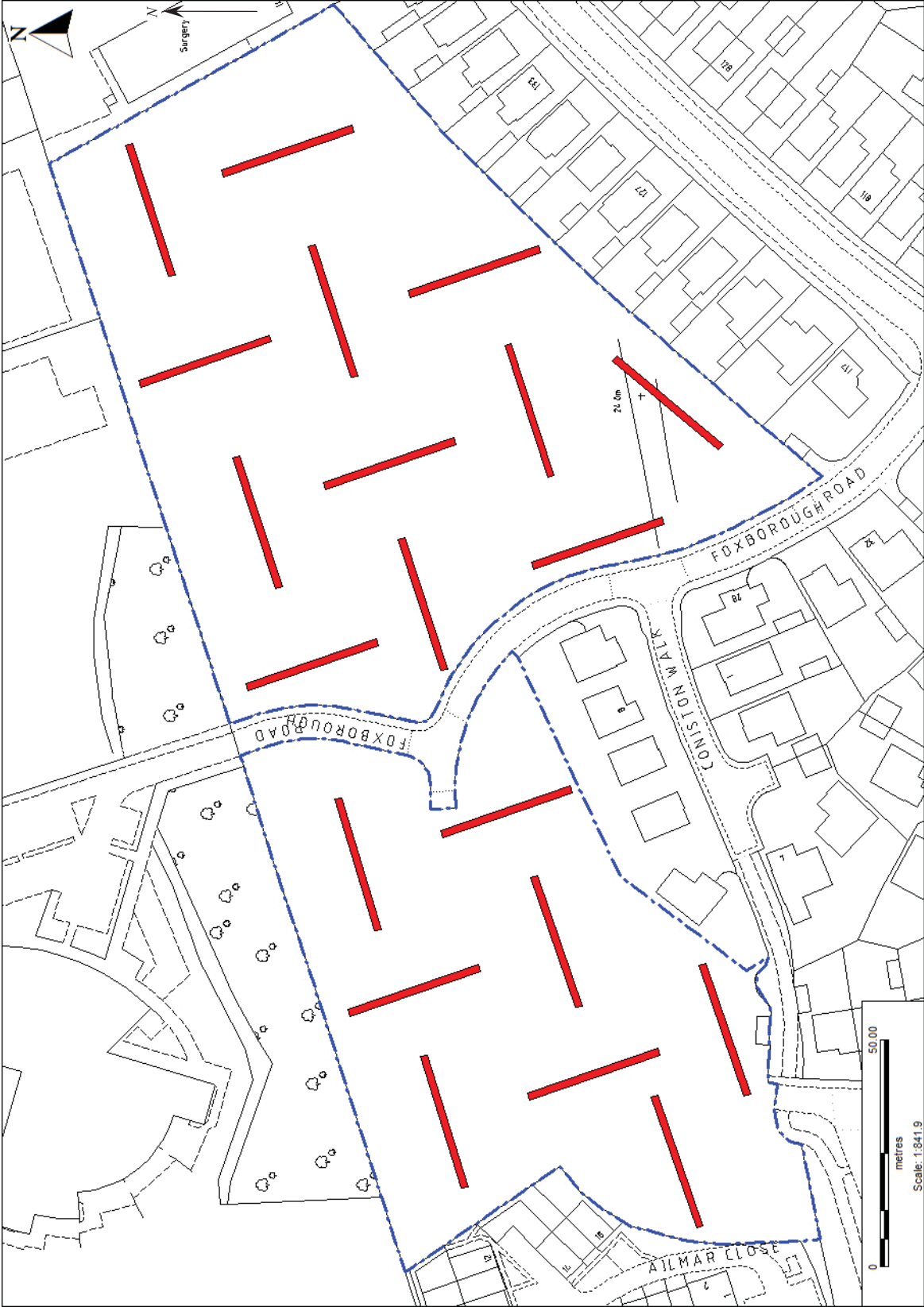
RA3: Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.

RA4: Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.



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Figure 1. Site Location



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Figure 2. Proposed trench layout (trenches in red)

2 Project details

Site Name	Land off Foxborough Road
Site Location/Parish	Lowestoft
Grid Reference	TM 533 950
Access	Off Foxborough Road
Planning Application No	Pre-determination
HER code	TBC
OASIS Ref	TBC
Type:	Trial trench evaluation
Area	2.35a
Project start date	01/12/2014
Fieldwork duration	4 days (estimated)
Number of personnel on site	Up to 3

Personnel and contact numbers

Contracts Manager	Rhodri Gardner	01473 581743
Project Officer (first point of on-site contact)	TBA	-
Finds Dept	Richenda Goffin	01284 352447
Sub-contractors	N/A	
Curatorial Officer	TBC	01284 741231
Consultant	N/A	
Developer		

Emergency contacts

Local Police	Old Nelson Street, Lowestoft, NR32 1PE	101
Location of nearest A&E	Lowestoft Road, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 6LA	01493 452452
Qualified First Aiders	SCC Project Officer attending	

Hire details

Plant:	Provided by client	
Toilet Hire	Provided by client	
Tool hire:	N/A	

Other Contacts

Suffolk Fleet Maintenance		01359 270777
Suffolk Press Office		01473 264395
SCC EMS (Jezz Meredith)		01473 583288
SCC H&S (Stuart Boulter)		01473 583290

3 Archaeological method statement

3.1 Evaluation by trial trench

- 3.1.1 The archaeological fieldwork will be carried out by members of the SCCAS field team led in the field by an experienced member of staff of Project Officer Grade. The excavation team will comprise a Project Officer and up to 3 experienced excavators and surveyors (to include metal detectorist) from a pool of suitable staff at SCCAS.
- 3.1.2 Evaluation of the development area will employ twenty (20) trial trenches to sample the proposed development area (PDA). A further single 30m trench will be held back as a contingency measure which can be employed in the event of a discovery that requires further targeted exposure.
- 3.1.3 The PDA covers an area of approximately 2.35ha.
- 3.1.4 The trenches will measure 30m long x 1.8m wide and will be excavated in locations designed to sample the PDA as thoroughly as possible (Fig. 2).
- 3.1.5 No information has currently been provided about the presence or otherwise of services by the developer. Therefore if previously unknown services or similar restrictions are encountered during work on site then trench layout will be amended accordingly.
- 3.1.6 *General trial trench methodology*
- 3.1.7 The trench will be cut using a tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket, under the constant supervision of an archaeologist. All overburden (topsoil and subsoil) will be removed stratigraphically until either the first archaeological horizon or natural deposits are encountered. Spoil will be stored adjacent to each trench and topsoil, subsoil and concrete/overburden will be kept separate for sequential backfilling if requested by the client prior to excavation.
- 3.1.8 Archaeological deposits and features will be sampled by hand excavation and the trench bases and sections cleaned as necessary in order to satisfy the project aims and in compliance with the SCCAS Requirements for Archaeological Evaluation, 2012.
- 3.1.9 Trenches requiring access by staff for hand excavation and recording will not exceed a depth of 1.2m. Any trench in which this depth is not sufficient to meet the archaeological requirements of the Brief and Specification will be brought to the attention of the client or their agent and the Archaeological Advisor to the LPA so that further requirements can be discussed (and costed).
- 3.1.10 Deeper excavation can be undertaken provided suitable trench support is used or, where practicable, the trench sides are stepped or battered.
- 3.1.11 A site plan, which will show all trench locations, feature positions and levels AOD will be recorded using an RTK GPS or TST, depending on the specific requirements of the project. A minimum of one to two sections per trench will be

recorded at 1:20. Feature sections and plans will be recorded at 1:20 and trench and feature plans at 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate. Normal Field Team conventions, compatible with the County HER, will be used during the site recording.

- 3.1.12 The site will be recorded under a unique HER site code acquired from the Suffolk HER Office and archaeological contexts will be recorded using standard *pro forma* Context Recording sheets and entered into an associated database.
- 3.1.13 A digital photographic record will be made throughout the evaluation.
- 3.1.14 Metal detector searches will be made at all stages of the project.
- 3.1.15 All pre-modern finds will be kept and no discard policy will be considered until all the finds have been processed and assessed.
- 3.1.16 All finds will be brought back to the SCCAS Bury St Edmunds office for processing, preliminary conservation and packing. Much of the archive and assessment preparation work will be done in house, but in some circumstances it may be necessary to send some categories of finds to specialists working in other parts of the country.
- 3.1.17 Bulk environmental soil samples (40 litres each) will be taken from suitable archaeological features and retained until an appropriate specialist has assessed their potential for palaeo-environmental remains. Decisions will be made on the need for further analysis following this assessment. If necessary advice will be sought from English Heritage's Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science on the need for specialist environmental sampling (see below).
- 3.1.18 In the event of human remains being encountered on the site, guidelines from the Ministry of Justice will be followed. The evaluation will attempt to establish the extent, depth and date of burials whilst leaving remains *in situ*. During the evaluation any exposed human remains will be securely covered and hidden from the public view at all times when they are not attended by staff. At the conclusion of the work backfilling will be carried out in a manner sensitive to the preservation of such remains.
- 3.1.19 If circumstances dictate that the lifting of human remains is unavoidable then a Ministry of Justice Licence for their removal will be obtained prior to their removal from site.

3.2 Reporting, archive and OASIS record

- 3.2.1 A unique HER number has been acquired from the Suffolk HER. This will be clearly marked on all documentation relating to the project.
- 3.2.2 All artefactual material recovered will be held by the SCC Contracting Team until their analysis of the material is complete. Ownership of all such archaeological finds will then be given over to the relevant authority. There is a presumption that this will be SCCAS/CT, who will hold the material in suitable storage to facilitate future study and ensure its proper preservation.
- 3.2.2 In the event that artefacts of significant monetary value are discovered separate ownership arrangements may be negotiated, provided they are not subject to Treasure Act legislation.
- 3.2.3 The project archive shall be compiled in accordance with the guidelines issued by the SCCAS/CT (2010). The client is aware of the costs of archiving and provision has been made to cover these costs in our agreement with them. The archive will be deposited with the County Archaeology Store unless another suitable repository is agreed with SCCAS/CT.
- 3.2.4 Specialist finds staff will be used, who are experienced in local and regional types and periods for their field.
- 3.2.5 All site data will be entered on a computerised database compatible with the County HER. All site plans and sections will be copied to form a permanent archive on archivally stable material. Ordnance Datum levels will be on the section sheets. The photographic archive will be fully catalogued within the County HER photographic index.
- 3.2.6 All finds will be processed, marked and bagged/boxed to County HER requirements. Where appropriate finds will be marked with a site code and a context number.
- 3.2.7 Bulk finds will be fully quantified on a computerised database compatible with the County HER. Quantification will fully cover weights and numbers of finds by context with a clear statement for specialists on the degree of apparent residuality observed.
- 3.2.8 Metal finds on site will be stored in accordance with ICON guidelines, initially recorded assessed for significance before dispatch to a conservation laboratory within 4 weeks of the end of the excavation. All pre-modern silver, copper alloy and ferrous metal artefacts will be x-rayed and coins will be x-rayed if necessary for identification. Sensitive finds will be conserved if necessary and deposited in bags/boxes suitable for long term storage to ICON standards. All coins will be identified to a standard acceptable to normal numismatic research.
- 3.2.9 The site archive will meet the standards of SCCAS/CT.
- 3.2.10 The pottery will be recorded and archived to a standard consistent with the Draft Guidelines of the Medieval Pottery Research Group and Guidelines for the archiving of Roman Pottery, SGRP (ed. M.G. Darling, 1994) and to The Study of

Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for analysis and Publications, Occasional Papers No.1 and No. 2, 3rd Edition (Revised 2010, Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group).

- 3.2.11 Environmental samples will be processed and assessed to standards set by the Regional Environmental Archaeologist with a clear statement of potential for further analysis and significance.
- 3.2.12 Animal and human bone will be quantified and assessed to a standard acceptable to national and regional English Heritage specialists.
- 3.2.13 An industrial waste assessment will cover all relevant material (i.e. fired clay finds as well as slag).
- 3.2.14 A report on the results of the evaluation will be completed c. 6 weeks after the completion of the fieldwork. A draft of the report will be submitted to SCCAS/CT for approval.
- 3.2.15 On receipt of approval of the report from SCCAS/CT hard and digital copies will be sent to the Suffolk HER.
- 3.2.16 The Suffolk HER is registered with the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. The SCCAS Contracting Team will provide appropriate details relating to this project by completing the OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis>. The completed form will be included as an appendix to the final report.

Appendix 2. OASIS Summary

OASIS ID: suffolkc1-196702

Project details

Project name	LWT 329 Foxborough Road, Lowestoft
Short description of the project	<p>An archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken across fields forming a proposed development site adjacent to Foxborough Road, Lowestoft. In total eighteen trenches, each of c.30m length, were dug across the site. Ground conditions were very wet with many of the trenches filling with water. Six undated ditches were identified across the site. All of these features had either peaty or organic-rich silty fills suggesting that water had stood in these ditches when they were open. Three of these ditches appeared to be at right-angles to a large post-medieval bank and ditch running east to west across the southern edge of the site and were possibly part of the same grid of field division. Other ditches were on different alignments and were probably part of an earlier system. No finds or other evidence for human activity were found either associated with the ditches or unstratified in the topsoil. Given the wet water-logged condition of these fields it is likely that this area had been used in the past for summer pasture or for harvesting hay. It is probable that the ditches encountered were associated with either land drainage or stock management.</p>
Project dates	Start: 01-12-2014 End: 05-12-2014
Previous/future	No / Not known
Reference codes	LWT 329 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	New designation (ESA, NP, SSSI)
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK WAVENEY LOWESTOFT LWT 329 Foxborough Road
Study area	2.35 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 5333 9503 52.4936283607 1.73238407878 52 29 37 N 001 43 56 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Project brief originator	Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)
Project design originator	HER Officer
Project manager	Rhodri Gardner
Project supervisor	Jezz Meredith
Funding body	Developer
Name of funding body	Warnes & sons Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Correspondence","Miscellaneous Material","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Foxborough Rd, Lowestoft, LWT 329 evaluation report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Meredith, J.
Other bibliographic details	2014/134
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	SCCAS
Place of issue or publication	Ipswich
Description	Standard evaluation report

Entered by Jezz Meredith (jezz.meredith@suffolk.gov.uk)

Entered on 8 January 2015

OASIS:

Please e-mail [English Heritage](#) for OASIS help and advice

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Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm> for this page

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