

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND EXCAVATION REPORT

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**333a to 389 Bramford Road, Ipswich**

**IPS 596 (IAS 7931), and IPS 473**

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
AND EXCAVATION, 2007



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## HER information

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Planning application no: | IP/07/00716/FUL                            |
| Site code:               | IPS 596 (IAS 7931)                         |
| Date of fieldwork:       | 25 July 2007, 08–11 and 22–31 October 2007 |
| Grid Reference:          | TM 1460 4538                               |
| Funding body:            | Redrow Homes (Eastern) Ltd                 |
| OASIS reference:         | suffolkc1-32896                            |

|                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Planning application no: | IP/04/01176/OUT       |
| Site code:               | IPS 473               |
| Date of fieldwork:       | 15 April 2005         |
| Grid Reference:          | TM 1460 4540          |
| Funding body:            | Merchant Projects Ltd |
| OASIS reference:         | suffolkc1-7774        |

# Contents

## Summary

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Location, topography and geology
- 3.0 Archaeological and historical background
- 4.0 Methodology
- 5.0 Results of the evaluation
- 6.0 Results of the excavation
- 7.0 Finds evidence
- 8.0 Discussion and conclusions
- 9.0 Acknowledgements
- 10.0 Bibliography
- 11.0 Appendices
  - Appendix 1 Brief and Specification
  - Appendix 2 Documentary research
  - Appendix 3 Contents of the stratigraphic archive
- 11.0 Figures
  - Figure 1 Site location maps
  - Figure 2 Evaluation trench locations
  - Figure 3 Excavation trench location
  - Figure 4 Plan of ditch 0005 in Trench 3
  - Figure 5 West-facing section at the east end of Trench 3, showing ditch 0005
  - Figure 6 Plan of cut feature 0008 in Trench 6
  - Figure 7 East-facing section at the south end of Trench 6, showing cut feature 0008
  - Figure 8 View of the archaeological features at the west end of Trench 7, looking NW
  - Figure 9 North-facing section at the west end of Trench 8, showing subsoil 0010 sealing a probable posthole
  - Figure 10 West-facing section at the east end of Trench 15, showing quarry pits 0017 and 0019 cutting natural sand and gravel 0003
  - Figure 11 Plan of ditch in Trench 19
  - Figure 12 West-facing section through ditch in Trench 19

- Figure 13 West-facing section in the south east corner of the excavation trench, showing a typical sequence of horizontal deposits
- Figure 14 General plan of archaeological features in the excavation trench
- Figure 15 View of archaeological features in the northern part of the excavation trench, looking north east
- Figure 16 Archaeological features in the northern part of the excavation trench
- Figure 17 South-facing section on the north side of the excavation trench, showing postholes 0034 and 0042
- Figure 18 Archaeological features in the southern part of the excavation trench

## Summary

IPS 596 (IAS 7931) and IPS 473, 333a – 389 Bramford Road, Ipswich: Trial trench evaluations were carried out at the above site in advance of a residential development. 22 trenches (total area 590m<sup>2</sup>) were excavated, representing approximately 3% of the site. Positive results in the south western part of the site led to a limited excavation of approximately 80m<sup>2</sup>.

A dense concentration of small pits or postholes (some containing worked flints) in the south western part of the site is assumed to indicate activity during the later prehistoric period although the precise nature of this activity is unknown.

Elsewhere on the site the only archaeological features are two ditches and a possible pit, all undated. Most of the site was quarried for gravel in the late 19th century, destroying any archaeological evidence that might have existed.

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## 1.0 Introduction

An archaeological evaluation and excavation (site code: IPS 596 / IAS 7931) were carried out at 333a – 389 Bramford Road, Ipswich (Fig. 1) in accordance with an archaeological condition relating to planning permission for a residential development (application number: IP/07/00716/FUL). CgMs Ltd commissioned the work on behalf of their client Redrow Homes (Eastern) Ltd., who funded the project.

The results of a previous archaeological evaluation (site code: IPS 473), carried out at 365 Bramford Road in 2005, are included in this report. That phase of work was commissioned and funded by the former owners of the site, Merchant Projects Ltd. The results of documentary research commissioned at the same time are included also, as Appendix 2.

## 2.0 Location, topography and geology

The site is centred at National Grid Reference TM 1460 4538 and encompasses an area of approximately 18160m<sup>2</sup>. It is bounded by the gardens of houses on Bramford Road to the north and west, and by the gardens of houses on Riverside Road to the south and east.

Current land use of the site is as gardens belonging to 333a, 335a, 365, 367 and 389 Bramford Road. The site is on the northern slope of the Gipping valley, with ground level falling from c. 8.7m OD at the north end to c. 4.4m OD at the south end of the site.

The site is underlain by a published geology of Alluvium and/or River Terrace Gravels over Upper Chalk. A geoenvironmental assessment carried out prior to the archaeological fieldwork (MLM Environmental, 2007) revealed River Terrace Deposits of sand and gravel (0.80 – 3.10m thick) overlying a deposit of sandy, chalky clay (0.80 – >3.90m thick). A structureless chalk underlies the clay.

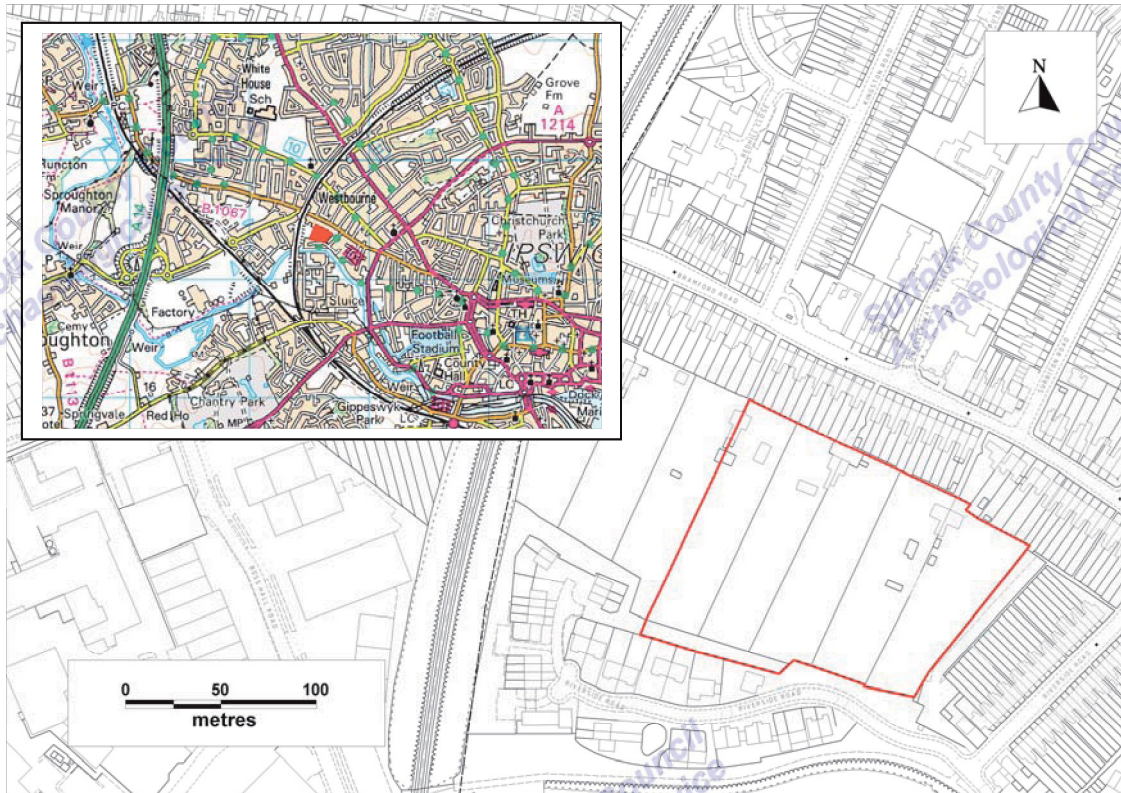


Figure 1. Site location maps

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### 3.0 Archaeological and historical background

The location of the site, on a free-draining terrace overlooking the River Gipping, suggests potential for prehistoric settlement and burial activity. However, the earliest activity in the area, as recorded in the County Historic Environment Record, dates to the early Saxon period. Notably, an early Saxon cemetery is located about 500m west of the site on the Boss Hall industrial estate, Sproughton Road (site code: IPS 231). At The Tannery, Sacker's Yard (only 70m south east of the site), a number of postholes suggest Saxon settlement activity in the 7th century AD (site code: IPS 395).

Isolated finds that are indicative of Middle and Late Saxon activity have been recorded just to the north of the site. These include a bronze brooch with animal motif (9–11th century), from 63 Eustace Road (site code: IPS 025) and an Ipswich ware pot (8–9th century) from 5–7 Kingston Road (site code: IPS 102).

In the late medieval period (and perhaps earlier) the site formed part of the Boss Hall manorial estate, the moated manor house being located to the west of the site in the area occupied now by the Boss Hall industrial estate, Sproughton Road. An assessment of the manorial deeds suggests that the manor was little more than a single farm and that it is unlikely that medieval buildings are located on the site (Breen, 2005; Appendix 2). A medieval chapel to St Alburt was located north of the Boss Hall estate, probably on the west



side of the railway line (opened 1859) that passes close to the western boundary of the site.

During the post-medieval period the site remained under agricultural land use. The Bramford title map of 1857 shows that it formed the eastern part of a large field (called Chapel Field) extending as far as Sproughton Road to the west. The Ordnance Survey map of 1880 reveals much the same pattern of land use, although by that time the Chapel Field had been bisected by the railway.

In the 1880s the site was engulfed by the expansion of Ipswich. At that time this stretch of Bramford Road was developed for housing, and the 1890 Ordnance Survey map shows the properties and boundaries that exist to the present day. It is understood that the unusually large gardens that make up the site were used originally as market gardens (John Newman, *pers comm*).

## 4.0 Methodology

### Evaluation

The archaeological evaluation was conducted generally in accordance with a Brief and Specification written by K Wade of SCCAS Conservation team (Wade, 2005; Appendix 1).

The evaluation took place on 25 July 2007 and 08–11 October 2007. 18 evaluation trenches (Fig. 2) were excavated under direct archaeological supervision using a JCB mechanical excavator fitted with either a 1.6m wide, toothless bucket (Trenches 1–3) or a 2m wide, toothless bucket (Trenches 4–18). To a large extent the trench positions were dictated by site conditions such as the presence of outbuildings, vegetation and underground services. Despite this it was possible to locate the trenches in such a way as to allow the archaeological potential of the site to be evaluated comprehensively.

It should be noted that two areas within the development site were not available for evaluation. These were the northern half of the garden of 367 Bramford Road (the house being occupied at that time) and the southern half of 333a Bramford Road, which was covered by dense vegetation.

The evaluation trenches were excavated to depths of between 0.60m and 1.30m, depending on ground conditions. Mechanical excavation continued to the level of the geological stratum. A number of intrusive features extending below this depth were excavated partially (50% sampled) with hand tools.

Representative sections at the ends of each trench were drawn and a photographic record was made. The latter consists of 1600 x 1200 pixel and 3008 x 2000 pixel digital images and monochrome film prints. Trench locations were recorded by reference to a 1:200 plan supplied by the developer and levels were extrapolated from an Ordnance Survey benchmark of 8.77m OD on Bramford Road Methodist Church.

The trenches shown in Figure 2 covered 590m<sup>2</sup>, representing 4.2% of the area available for evaluation and approximately 3% of the total area of the development site.

### Excavation

The fieldwork took place 22–31 October 2007. A single, L-shaped trench (Fig. 3) with maximum dimensions of approximately 11m EW x 10m NS was excavated in the area of evaluation trenches 7 and 8 using a JCB mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.60m wide, toothless bucket. The area of excavation was approximately 80m<sup>2</sup>.

The trench was excavated by machine to a maximum depth of 1.30m, that being the level of the geological stratum. Archaeological features extending below that depth were excavated fully with hand tools. Part of a horizontal deposit of subsoil was excavated by hand also, to enable the recovery of dating evidence.

All excavated features were planned at 1:20, and significant sections were drawn at the same scale. A full photographic record was made, comprising 3008 x 2000 pixel digital images and monochrome film prints. Some deposits were sampled for environmental analysis.



Figure 2. Evaluation trench locations (IPS 596: green; IPS 473: blue)

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Figure 3. Excavation trench location (purple)

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## 5.0 Results of the evaluation

Generally, the evaluation revealed a relatively simple, horizontal sequence of natural sand and gravel or natural clay/silt, sandy subsoil and modern topsoil. Although the composition of these deposits varies across the site they can be described generally as follows:

**Topsoil 0001:** Friable, mid brownish grey sandy silt containing moderate fine–medium pebbles and occasional small–large fragments of modern (19/20th century) pottery, glass, clay tobacco pipe stems, brick, tile, metalwork and coal. In places the topsoil contains lenses of ash and charcoal. Generally a turf layer seals the topsoil and forms the current land surface.

**Subsoil 0002:** Soft, mid yellowish brown silty sand containing occasional to moderate fine–medium sub angular and rounded pebbles but no obvious cultural material.

**Subsoil 0010:** Soft, mid brown silty sand containing occasional to moderate fine–medium sub angular and rounded pebbles. Some cultural material was recovered from this deposit.

**Natural sand and gravel 0003:** Soft, light brownish yellow sand or sand and fine-coarse flint gravel, either in discrete zones or as banded deposits.

**Natural clay/silt 0007:** Stiff, mid greyish brown clay/silt containing occasional small-large flint pebbles or cobbles and moderate to frequent flecks and small fragments of chalk, sometimes in discrete patches.

In some of the trenches intrusive features interrupted the horizontal sequence. These are described in the following section, which presents the results from each trench. Note that Trenches 19–22 were excavated during the earlier phase of evaluation on the site (site code: IPS 473).

### Trench 1

*Location: 389 Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 16.40m x 1.60m x 0.96m deep*

*Ground level: 8.48m OD (north), 8.32m OD (south)*

| Deposits/Features            | Depth below ground level (m) |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf | 0.00                         |
| Subsoil 0002                 | 0.25 (north only)            |
| Natural sand and gravel 0003 | 0.53 (north), 0.32 (south)   |

#### Comments:

The subsoil 0002 is 0.28m thick at the north end of the trench but becomes thinner to the south, petering out about 3.0m from the end of the trench.

### Trench 2

*Location: 389 Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 9.00m x 1.60m x 0.96m deep (east), 0.84m deep (west)*

*Ground level: 8.32m OD (east), 8.32m OD (west)*

| Deposits/Features            | Depth below ground level (m) |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf | 0.00                         |
| Subsoil 0002                 | 0.30 (east), 0.30 (west)     |
| Natural sand and gravel 0003 | 0.40 (east), 0.40 (west)     |

### Trench 3

*Location: 389 Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 12.30m x 1.60m x 1.20m deep (east), 1.08m (west)*

*Ground level: 8.52m OD (east), 8.52m OD (west)*

| Deposits/Features            | Depth below ground level (m) |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf | 0.00                         |
| Ditch 0005 and fill 0004     | 0.40 (see Comments)          |
| Subsoil 0002                 | 0.35 (west), 0.48 (east)     |
| Natural sand and gravel 0003 | 0.90 (east), 0.80 (west)     |

#### Comments:

At the east end of the trench subsoil 0002 and natural sand and gravel 0003 are cut by ditch 0005, oriented WSW-ENE (Figs. 4 and 5). The ditch is at least 4.0m long x approximately 2.60m wide x 0.76m deep, with moderately steep sides and a rounded base. Its single fill 0004 is soft, mid brown silty sand containing occasional to moderate fine–medium sub angular and rounded pebbles but no cultural material.

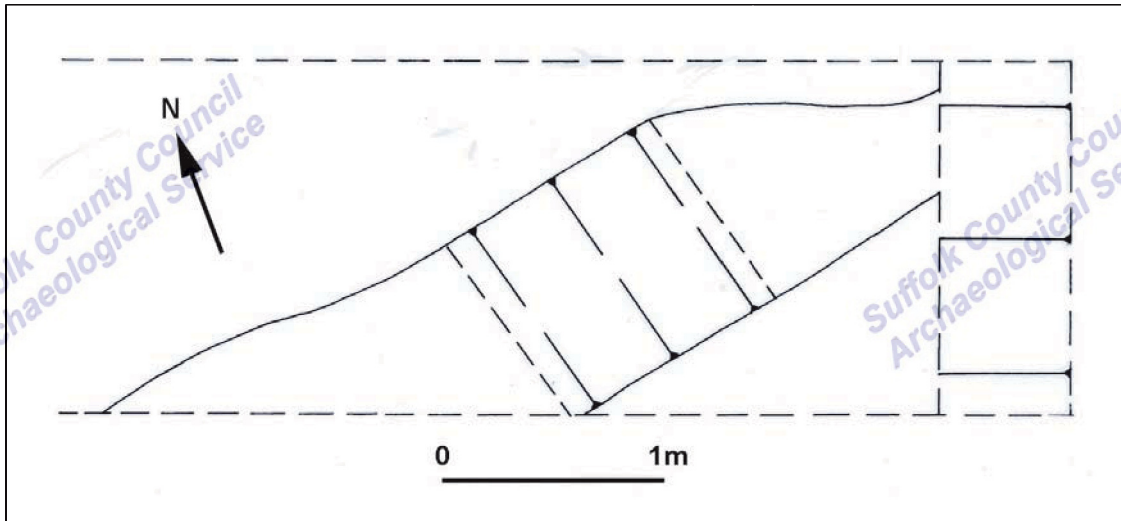


Figure 4. Plan of ditch 0005 in Trench 3

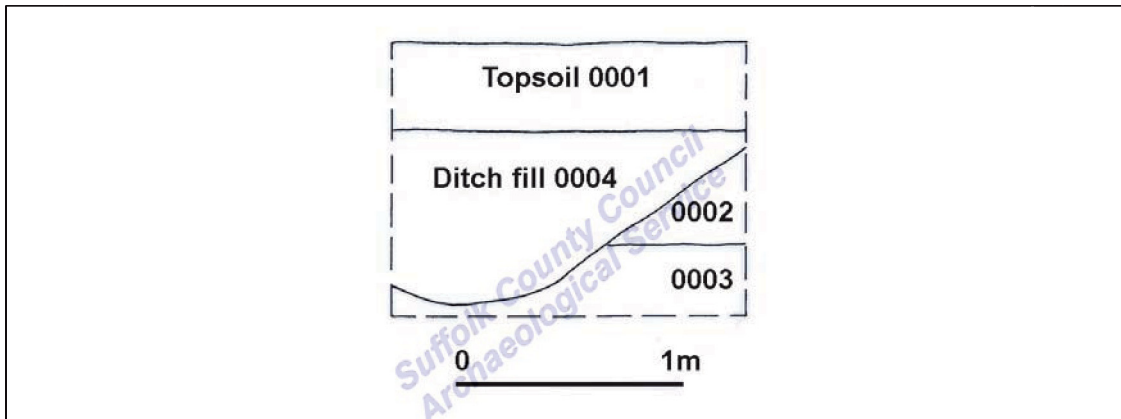


Figure 5. West-facing section at the east end of Trench 3, showing ditch 0005

#### Trench 4

*Location: 389 Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 15.60m x 2.00m x 0.80m deep (east), 1.20m deep (west)*

*Ground level: 7.89m OD (east), 7.68m OD (west)*

| Deposits/Features            | Depth below ground level (m) |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf | 0.00                         |
| Subsoil 0002                 | 0.26 (east), 0.26 (west)     |
| Natural sand and gravel 0003 | 0.47 (east), 0.42 (west)     |

#### Trench 5

*Location: 389 Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 11.80m x 2.00m x 1.10m deep (east), 1.08m deep (west)*

*Ground level: 7.17m OD (east), 6.84m OD (west)*

| Deposits/Features                      | Depth below ground level (m) |
|--|------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf           | 0.00                         |
| Subsoil 0002                           | 0.30 (east), 0.30 (west)     |
| Natural sand and gravel 0003           | 0.73 (east), 0.40 (west)     |
| Natural clay/silt and sand/gravel 0006 | 0.40 (west only)             |
| Natural clay/silt 0007                 | 0.40 (west only)             |

*Comments:*

Natural sand and gravel 0003 is confined to the eastern half of the trench. In the western half of the trench the natural stratum comprises chalky clay/silt 0007. The interface between these deposits is steep, with sand and gravel 0003 overlying clay/silt 0007. At the west end of the trench there is a mixed deposit 0006 comprising both types of natural stratum.

**Trench 6**

*Location: 389 Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 12.70m x 2.00m x 1.00m deep (north), 0.88m deep (south)*

*Ground level: 6.70m OD (north), 6.07m OD (south)*

| Deposits/Features              | Depth below ground level (m) |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf   | 0.00                         |
| Cut feature 0008 and fill 0009 | 0.28 (see Comments)          |
| Natural sand 0003              | 0.53 (north), 0.26 (south)   |

*Comments:*

At the south end of the trench the topsoil 0001 seals cut feature 0008 (Figs. 6 and 7). This is irregular in plan, measuring at least 2.30m NS x at least 2.00m EW x 0.86m deep. It has steep sides breaking gradually into a flat base. Fill 0008 is soft, light brownish grey silty sand containing moderate sub-angular to rounded flint pebbles but no cultural material. The date and function of the feature are unknown.

Note that subsoil 0002 does not occur in this trench.

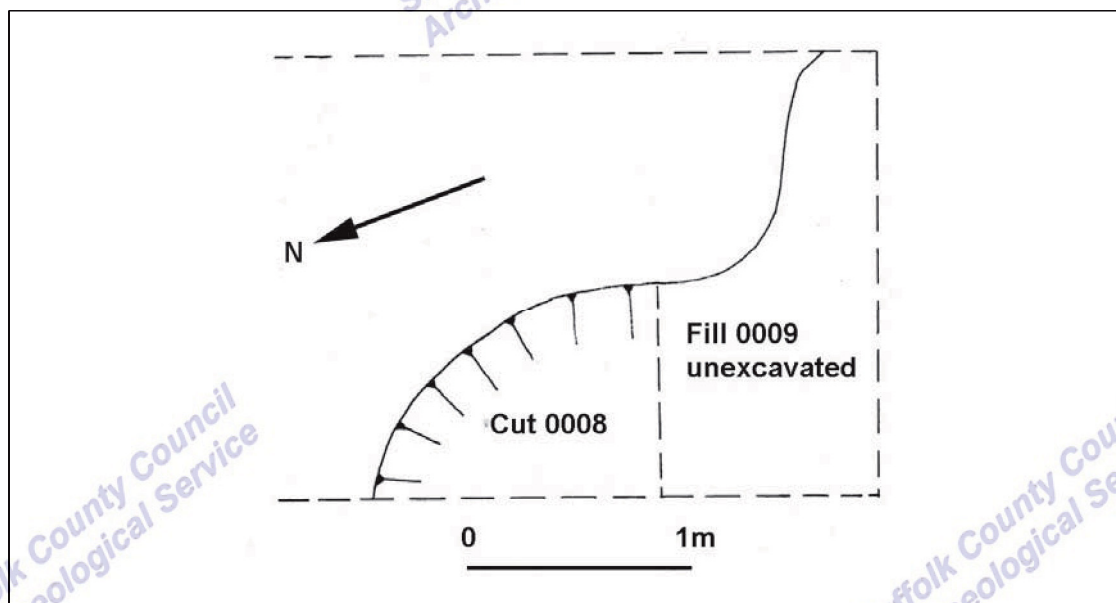


Figure 6. Plan of cut feature 0008 in Trench 6

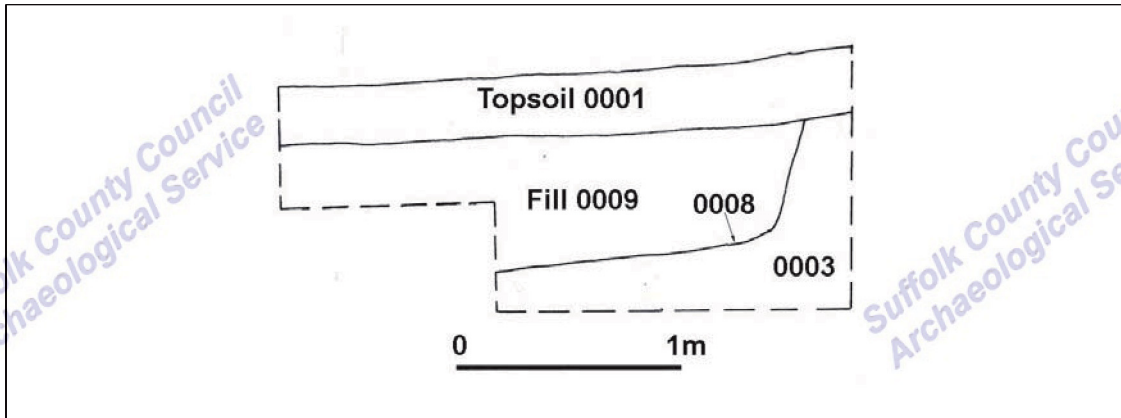


Figure 7. East-facing section at the south end of Trench 6, showing cut feature 0008

### Trench 7

*Location: 389 Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 15.00m x 2.00m x 1.30m deep (east), 1.10m deep (west)*

*Ground level: 5.36m OD (east), 5.16m OD (west)*

| Deposits/Features            | Depth below ground level (m)  |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf | 0.00                          |
| Subsoil 0010                 | 0.64 (east), 0.52 (west)      |
| Archaeological features      | 0.94 (east end, see Comments) |
| Natural sand and gravel 0003 | 0.64 (east only)              |
| Natural clay/silt 0007       | 0.64 (east), 0.94 (west)      |

#### Comments:

Topsoil 0001 has been disturbed in recent times, incorporating lenses of gravel, mortar and concrete fragments.

Subsoil 0010 is soft, mid brown silty sand containing occasional to moderate fine-medium sub angular and rounded pebbles, occasional flecks of charcoal and small fragments of roof tile and brick of late medieval/early post-medieval date. Several struck flints were recovered from this deposit during the excavation phase and are described in that section of this report. At the east end of the trench subsoil 0010 has a sloping interface with underlying natural sand and gravel 0003. At the west end of the trench subsoil 0010 seals a number of archaeological features.

At the west end of the trench a number of archaeological features (principally postholes) are cut into the underlying natural clay/silt 0007 (Fig. 8). These features are described and discussed elsewhere, in the section of this report dealing with the archaeological excavation.

Natural sand and gravel 0003 is confined to the eastern two-thirds of the trench and at the extreme east end has a steep interface with underlying natural clay/silt 0007, suggesting that it is filling a hollow in the surface of the underlying deposit.

Natural chalky clay/silt 0007 outcrops at either end of the trench, but dips below the base of the trench elsewhere. At the west end of the trench it is cut by a number of archaeological features, described and discussed elsewhere.



Figure 8. View of the archaeological features at the west end of Trench 7, looking north west (0.5m scale)

### Trench 8

*Location: 389 Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 9.00m x 2.00m x 1.20m deep*

*Ground level: 5.10m OD (east), 4.84m OD (west)*

| <b>Deposits/Features</b>     | <b>Depth below ground level (m)</b> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf | 0.00                                |
| Subsoil 0002                 | 0.35 (east), 0.35 (west)            |
| Archaeological features      | 1.10 (east end, see Comments)       |
| Natural clay/silt 0007       | 1.10 (east), 1.10 (west)            |

#### *Comments:*

At the west end of the trench subsoil 0010 seals an archaeological feature (possible posthole) that is cut into the underlying natural clay/silt 0007 (Fig. 9). This feature is described and discussed elsewhere, in the section of this report dealing with the archaeological excavation.



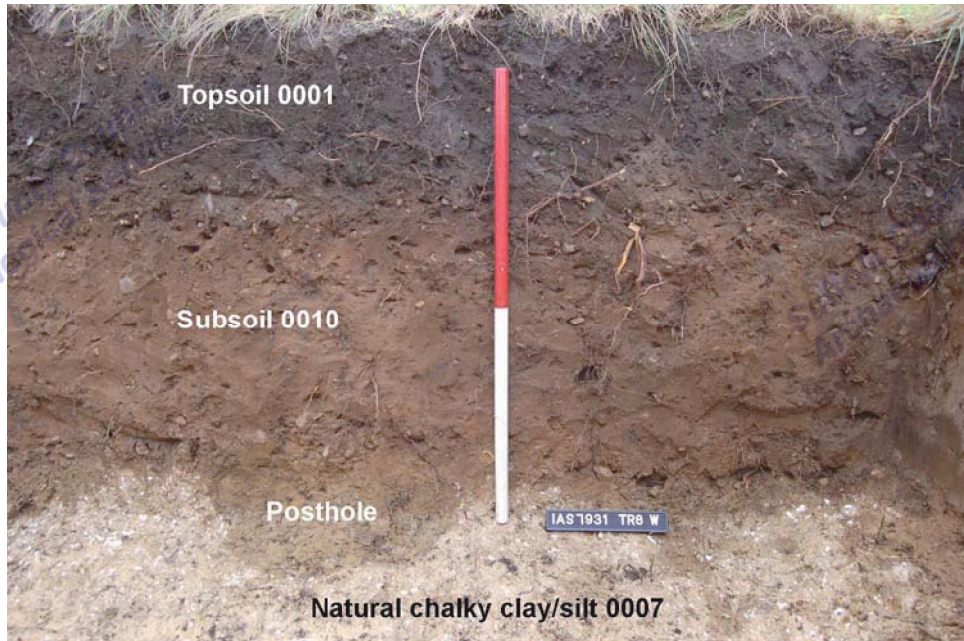


Figure 9. North-facing section at the west end of Trench 8, showing subsoil 0010 sealing a probable posthole (1m scale)

### Trench 9

*Location: 367 Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 9.00m x 2.00m x 1.20m deep*

*Ground level: 7.26m OD (north), 7.07m OD (south)*

| Deposits/Features             | Depth below ground level (m) |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf  | 0.00                         |
| Quarry pit 0012 and fill 0011 | 0.30 (see Comments)          |
| Natural sand and gravel 0003  | 0.30 (south only), 1.10      |

#### Comments:

There is no subsoil deposit in this trench, it having apparently been removed by horizontal truncation.

Natural sand and gravel 0003 occurs only at the south end of the trench. Elsewhere it has been removed by quarry pit 0012. The pit measures at least 14.20m NS x at least 2.00m EW x at least 1.00m deep. Only the southern edge of the pit was seen, sloping down to the north at approximately 45°. Its fill, 0011, is loose, light brownish yellow medium-coarse sand and fine gravel. This deposit is extremely homogenous, with well-sorted particles. In places it is interrupted by lenses of mid brown silty sand sloping at the same angle as the side of the pit.

## Trench 10

*Location: 367 Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 16.60m x 2.00m x 0.90m deep*

*Ground level: 6.90m OD (east), 6.42m OD (west)*

| Deposits/Features                | Depth below ground level (m) |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf     | 0.00                         |
| Redeposited sand and gravel 0013 | 0.30 (east), 0.30 (west)     |
| Cut feature 0015 and fill 0014   | 0.60 (see Comments)          |
| Natural sand and gravel 0003     | 0.60 (east), 0.50 (west)     |

### Comments:

There is no subsoil deposit in this trench, having apparently been removed by horizontal truncation.

Redeposited sand and gravel 0013 is identical to fill 0011 in quarry pit 0012, a few metres to the north in Trench 9. It extends as a layer 0.20 – 0.30m thick running the length of the trench, and seals cut feature 0015.

Cut feature 0015 comprises a number of shallow, irregular hollows in the surface of natural sand and gravel 0003. These are filled with soft, mid brown silty sand 0014 containing fragments of 19th-century pottery, brick and ceramic roof tile.

## Trench 11

*Location: 367 Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 12.60m x 2.00m x 1.20m deep*

*Ground level: 5.70m OD (east), 5.70m OD (west)*

| Deposits/Features            | Depth below ground level (m) |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf | 0.00                         |
| Subsoil 0002                 | 0.40 (east), 0.40 (west)     |
| Natural sand and gravel 0003 | 1.20 (east), 1.20 (west)     |
| Natural clay/silt 0007       | 1.20 (east), 1.20 (west)     |

### Comments:

Topsoil 0001 has been disturbed in recent times, incorporating lenses of gravel, mortar and concrete fragments.

Natural strata vary along the length of the trench, with chalky clay/silt 0007 occurring mostly at the west end.

## Trench 12

*Location: 335a Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 19.50m x 2.00m x 1.30m deep (north), 0.70m deep (south)*

*Ground level: 8.14m OD (north), 7.99m OD (south)*

| Deposits/Features             | Depth below ground level (m) |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf  | 0.00                         |
| Quarry pit 0025 and fill 0024 | 0.35 (see Comments)          |
| Natural sand and gravel 0003  | 0.80 (north), 0.35 (south)   |

*Comments:*

There is no subsoil deposit in this trench, it having apparently been removed by horizontal truncation.

Quarry pit 0025 is at the north end of the trench. It measures at least 3.70m NS x at least 2.00m EW x at least 0.70m. Only the southern edge of the pit was seen, sloping down to the north at approximately 45°. Fill 0024 is identical to other deposits, such as 0011 in Trench 9 – well-sorted medium-coarse sand and fine gravel. It extends for several metres beyond the edge of quarry pit 0025 as a horizontal layer sealing the truncated surface of natural sand and gravel 0003.

### **Trench 13**

*Location: 335a Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 8.70m x 2.00m x 0.70m deep (east), 1.05m deep (west)*

*Ground level: 7.59m OD (east), 7.95m OD (west)*

| <b>Deposits/Features</b>     | <b>Depth below ground level (m)</b> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf | 0.00                                |
| Modern pits (not recorded)   | 0.36 (see Comments)                 |
| Natural sand and gravel 0003 | 0.36 (east), 0.36 (west)            |

*Comments:*

Two pits immediately below topsoil 0001 contain 20th-century material and have not been recorded. Otherwise, the topsoil seals natural sand and gravel 0003.

### **Trench 14**

*Location: 335a Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 12.80m x 2.00m x 0.60m deep*

*Ground level: 7.96m OD (north), 7.78m OD (south)*

| <b>Deposits/Features</b>     | <b>Depth below ground level (m)</b> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf | 0.00                                |
| Modern pits (not recorded)   | 0.30 (see Comments)                 |
| Natural sand and gravel 0003 | 0.30 (east), 0.30 (west)            |

*Comments:*

Some pits immediately below topsoil 0001 contain 20th-century material and have not been recorded. Otherwise, the topsoil seals natural sand and gravel 0003.

### **Trench 15**

*Location: 335a Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 15.80m x 2.00m x 1.15m deep (east), 1.10m deep (west)*

*Ground level: 7.26m OD (east), 7.59m OD (west)*

| <b>Deposits/Features</b>           | <b>Depth below ground level (m)</b> |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf       | 0.00                                |
| Quarry pits 0017, 0019, 0021, 0023 | 0.40 (see Comments)                 |
| Natural sand and gravel 0003       | 0.40 (east), 0.40 (west)            |

*Comments:*

Topsoil 0001 seals at least four quarry pits 0017, 0019, 0021 and 0023 cutting natural sand and gravel 0003. The pits are spaced closely, leaving only narrow ridges of the natural strata surviving between them, as shown on Figure 10. Their fills 0016, 0018, 0020 and 0022 are typical of the quarry fills found on the site, being well-sorted medium-coarse sand and fine gravel with lenses of soft, brown silty sand.

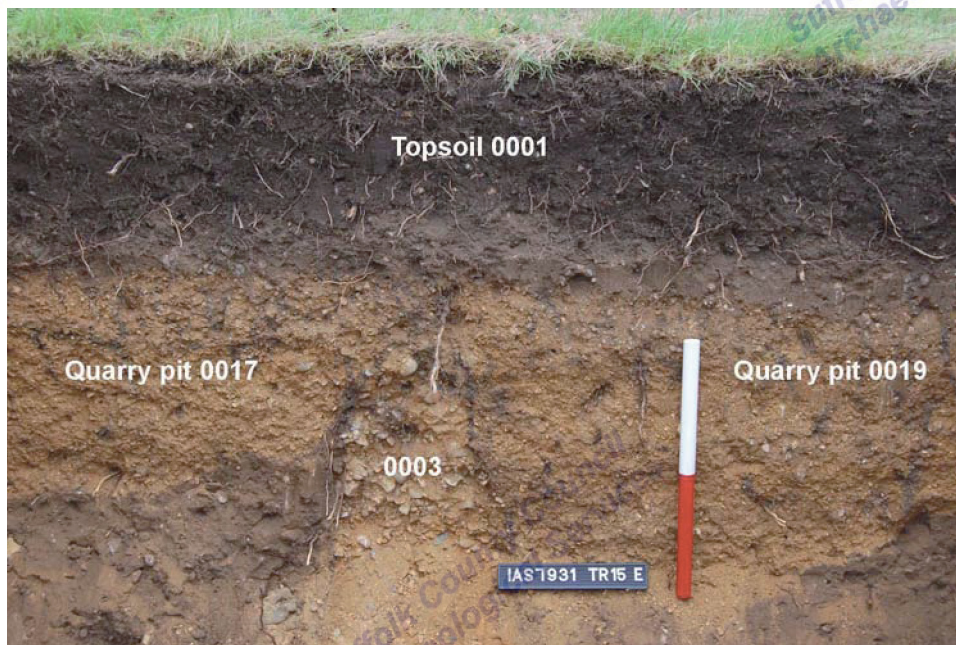


Figure 10. West-facing section at the east end of Trench 15, showing quarry pits 0017 and 0019 cutting natural sand and gravel 0003 (0.5m scale)

### **Trench 16**

*Location: 335a Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 17.00m x 2.00m x 1.20m deep*

*Ground level: 7.24m OD (north), 6.86m OD (west)*

| <b>Deposits</b>                     | <b>Depth below ground level (m)</b> |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf        | 0.00                                |
| Quarry pit(s) 0031 and fill(s) 0030 | 0.40 (see Comments)                 |

*Comments:*

Topsoil 0001 seals one or more quarry pits 0031 containing typical quarry backfills of well-sorted medium-coarse sand and fine gravel with lenses of soft, brown silty sand 0030. The pits are at least 0.80m deep and have removed the natural sand and gravel entirely from this trench.

### Trench 17

*Location: 335a Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 16.00m x 2.00m x 0.90m deep*

*Ground level: 6.31m OD (east), 6.45m OD (west)*

| Deposits                     | Depth below ground level (m) |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf | 0.00                         |
| Natural sand and gravel 0003 | 0.35 (east), 0.35 (west)     |

#### *Comments:*

Topsoil 0001 seals natural sand and gravel 0003. There is no intervening subsoil, this having apparently been removed by horizontal truncation.

### Trench 18

*Location: 333a Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 18.00m x 2.00m x 1.10m deep*

*Ground level: 7.47m OD (north), 7.20m OD (south)*

| Deposits                            | Depth below ground level (m) |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Topsoil 0001 and modern turf        | 0.00                         |
| Quarry pit(s) 0059 and fill(s) 0058 | 0.30 (north), 0.30 (south)   |

#### *Comments:*

Topsoil 0001 seals one or more quarry pits 0059 containing mostly a typical quarry backfill of well-sorted medium-coarse sand and fine gravel with lenses of soft, brown silty sand. At the north end of the trench the quarry fill is soft, greyish brown loamy soil containing moderate quantities of 19/20th-century pottery, brick, glass and slate, and frequent animal bone. The pits are at least 0.80m deep and have removed the natural sand and gravel entirely from this trench.

### Trench 19 (IPS 473)

*Location: 365 Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 19.20m x 1.60m x 0.55m deep*

*Ground level: 8.50m AOD (east), 8.15m AOD (west)*

| Deposits                | Depth below ground level (m) |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Topsoil and modern turf | 0.00                         |
| Subsoil                 | 0.30 (north), 0.30 (south)   |
| Ditch and fill          | 0.55 (see Comments)          |
| Natural sand and gravel | 0.55 (north), 0.52 (south)   |

#### *Comments:*

The topsoil seals a layer of mid brown sandy silt (subsoil). Near the south end of the trench the subsoil seems to overlie a probable ditch (Figs. 11 and 12). It is 2.75m wide x 1.15m deep and oriented approximately EW. The ditch has moderately steep sides and a flattened, U-shaped profile. It is filled with mid brown silty sand containing occasional pebbles but no obvious cultural material. It cuts natural sand and gravel.

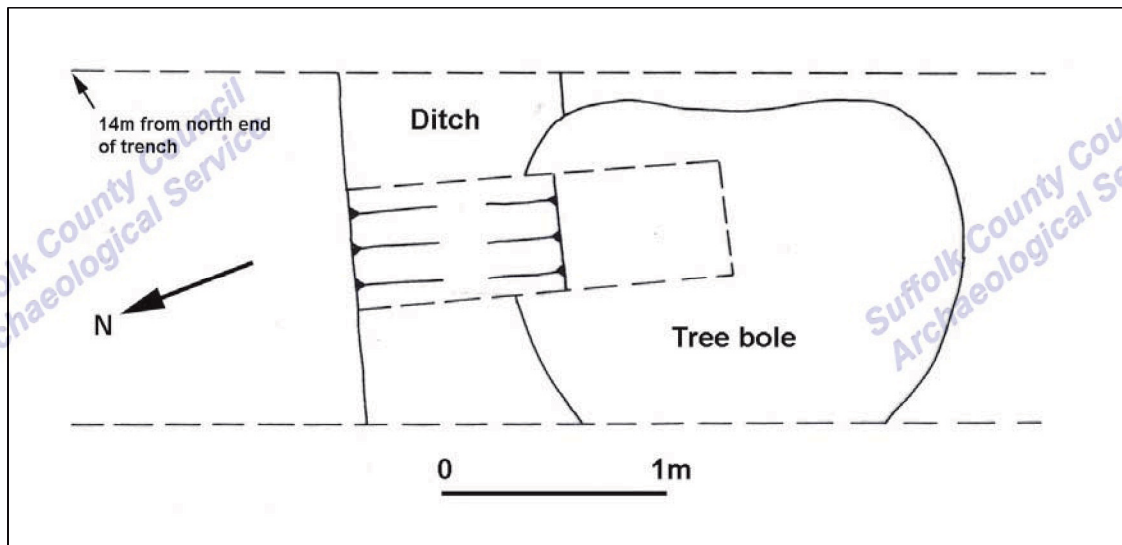


Figure 11. Plan of ditch in Trench 19

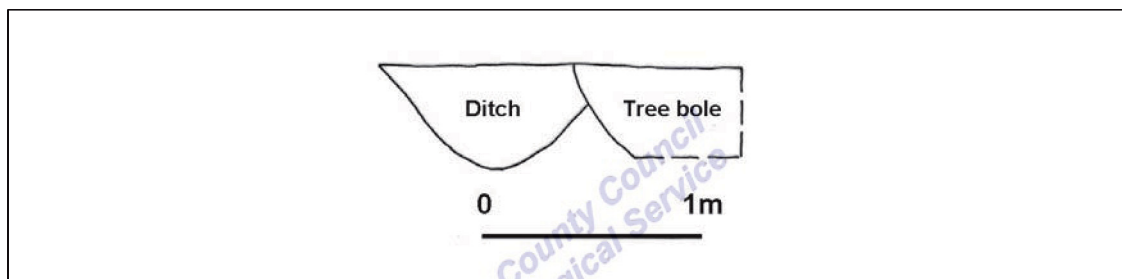


Figure 12. West-facing section through ditch in Trench 19

### Trench 20 (IPS 473)

Location: 365 Bramford Road

Dimensions: 18.40m x 1.60m x 1.40m deep

Ground level: 8.30m AOD (east), 8.25m AOD (west)

| Deposits                  | Depth below ground level (m) |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Topsoil and modern turf   | 0.00                         |
| Soil layer                | 0.30 (see Comments)          |
| Modern pit (not recorded) | 0.30 (east end)              |
| Quarry pit(s) and fill(s) | 0.50 (east), 0.50 (west)     |

#### Comments:

The topsoil seals a layer of light greyish brown soil. Below this are a number of quarry pits filled with redeposited sand and fine gravel. The quarrying has removed all trace of the natural sand and gravel from this trench.

### Trench 21 (IPS 473)

Location: 365 Bramford Road

Dimensions: 19.00m x 1.60m x 0.90m deep (east), 0.70m (west)

Ground level: 8.00m AOD (east), 8.00m AOD (west)

| Deposits                  | Depth below ground level (m) |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Topsoil and modern turf   | 0.00                         |
| Quarry pit(s) and fill(s) | 0.30 (east), 0.30 (west)     |
| Natural sand and gravel   | 0.30 (see Comments)          |

*Comments:*

The topsoil seals a number of quarry pits filled with redeposited sand and fine gravel. The quarrying has removed almost all trace of the natural sand and gravel from this trench.

**Trench 22 (IPS 473)**

*Location: 365 Bramford Road*

*Dimensions: 15.70m x 1.60m x 0.35m deep*

*Ground level: 7.00m AOD (north), 6.30m AOD (south)*

| <b>Deposits</b>           | <b>Depth below ground level (m)</b> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Topsoil and modern turf   | 0.00                                |
| Quarry pit(s) and fill(s) | 0.35 (north, see Comments)          |
| Natural sand and gravel   | 0.35 (south only)                   |

*Comments:*

Natural sand and gravel survives only at the south end of the trench.

Elsewhere it has been truncated to below the level of the base of the trench by one or more quarry pits.

## **6.0 Results of the excavation**

### **Natural strata**

The earliest natural stratum is deposit 0009 – firm, mid greyish brown clay/silt containing frequent flecks and small fragments of weathered chalk – identified originally in evaluation trenches 5, 7 and 8. It has an undulating surface with a maximum height of 4.17m OD in the north-western corner of the trench.

In the south-eastern corner of the excavation trench 0009 is sealed by 0084 – a layer of firm, mottled light brownish grey and brownish yellow clay/silt containing occasional pebbles, up to 0.15m thick and with a maximum height of approximately 3.85m OD (Fig. 13). This deposit was removed mostly by machine, but a representative area measuring 2.20m x 1.50m in the corner of the trench was hand-dug for potential finds retrieval. No cultural material was found but the deposit did contain occasional small fragments of charcoal, and for this reason 0084 was sampled for environmental analysis.

In the central, eastern and southern parts of the trench deposits 0009 and 0084 dip steeply below the level of the base of the trench at 3.70m OD. In those areas they are overlaid by natural sand and gravel 0003. The surface of 0003 is generally lower than that of 0009, having a maximum height of 3.88m OD in the eastern corner of the trench. Generally the natural strata exhibit a gentle slope down to the south.

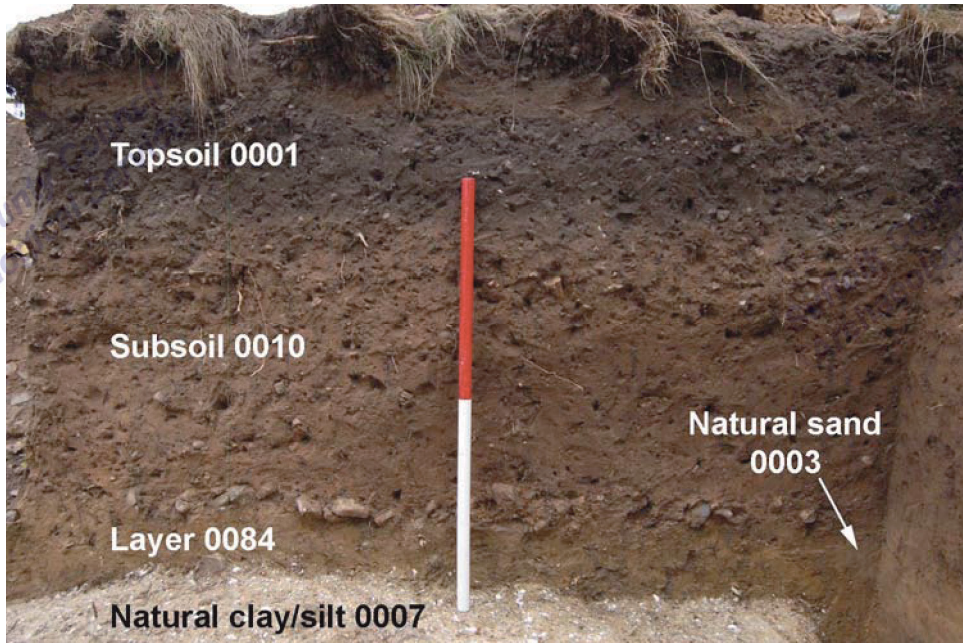


Figure 13. West-facing section in the south east corner of the excavation trench, showing a typical sequence of horizontal deposits (1m scale)

### Archaeological features

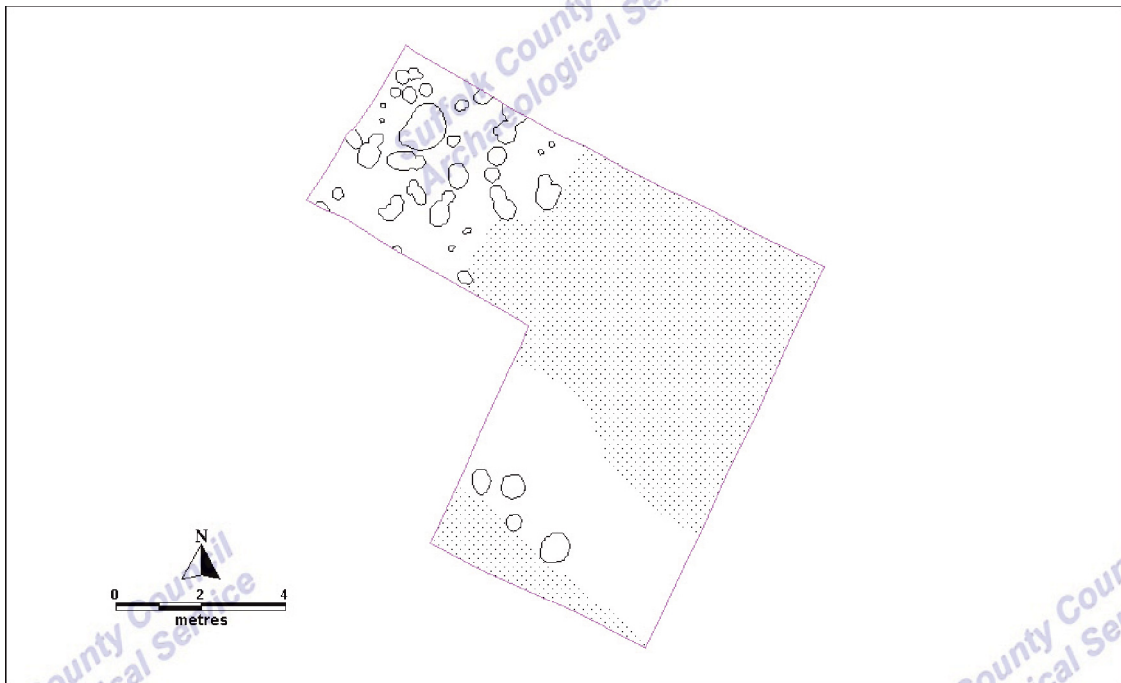


Figure 14. General plan of archaeological features in the excavation trench (areas of natural sand and gravel are stippled)





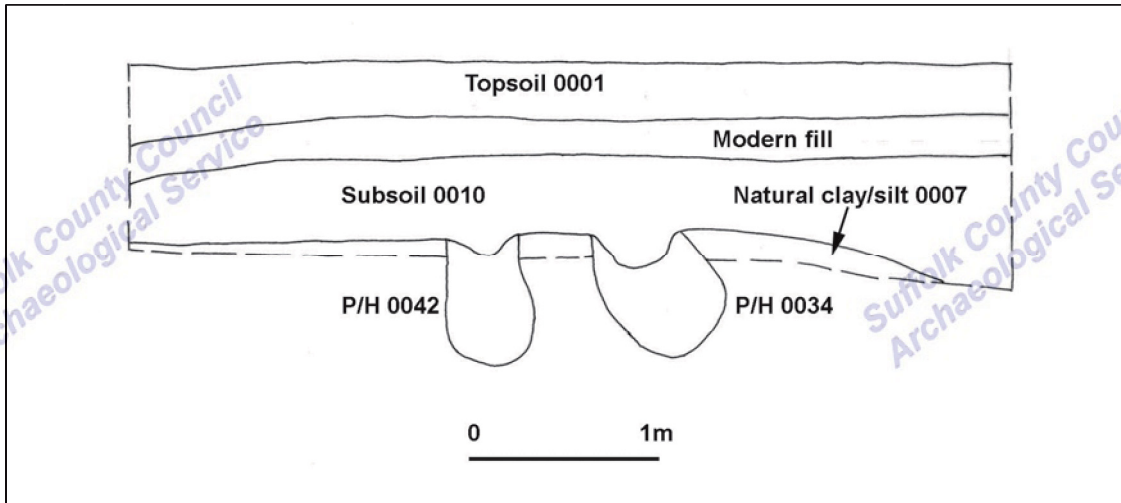


Figure 17. South-facing section on the north side of the excavation trench, showing features 0034 and 0042

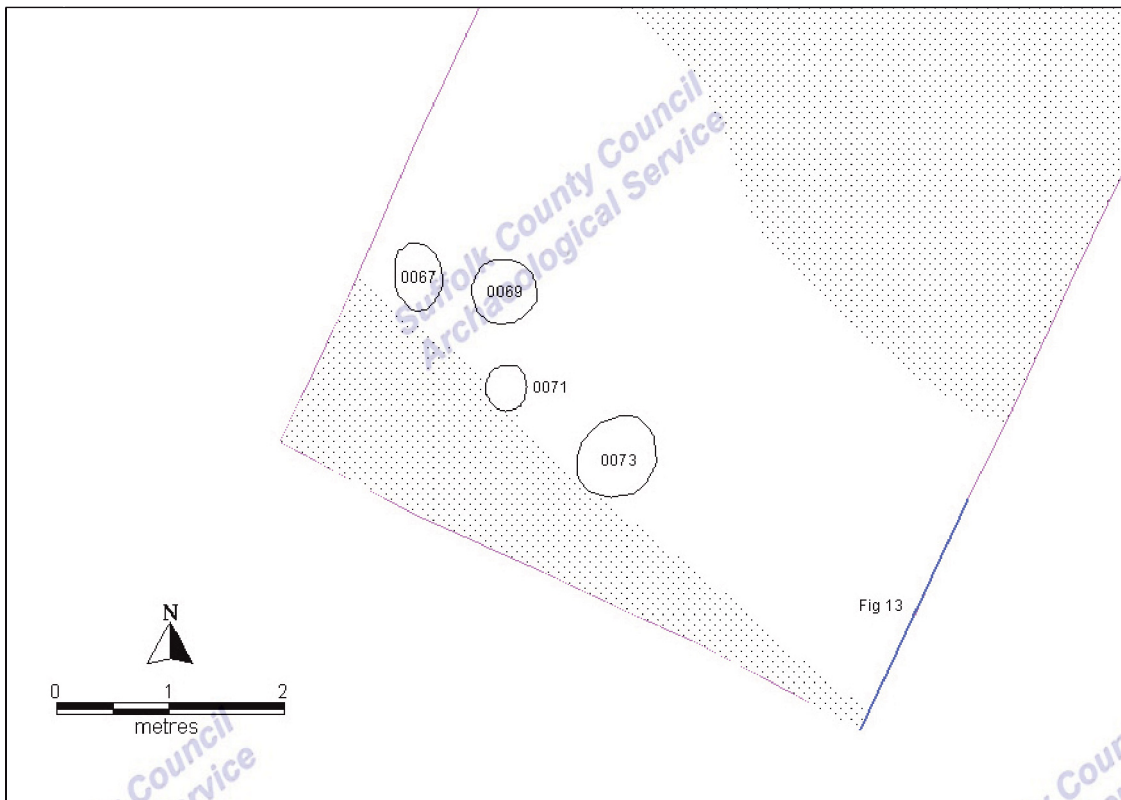


Figure 18. Archaeological features in the southern part of the excavation trench (areas of natural sand and gravel are stippled)

Forty seven small pits or postholes were identified, cutting into natural clay/silt 0007 (Figs. 14–18). Most of them are in the northern part of the trench, where they are closely spaced and sometimes intercutting. They are generally sub-circular or oval in plan and have various profiles although the larger features tend to be steep-sided (or under-cut) with concave bases; cuts 0034 and 0042, as shown on Figure 17, exhibit typical profiles for the larger features. They range in size from 0.15m wide x 0.10m deep to 1.20m wide x 0.64m deep. These features are described individually in Table 1.

| Cont | Description   |
|------|---|
| 0026 | Oval, steep sides, concave base, 0.46m x 0.34m x 0.26m deep           |
| 0028 | Circular, vertical sides, concave base, 0.32m diameter x 0.20m deep   |
| 0032 | Oval, steep sides, concave base, 0.52 x 0.44 x 0.32m deep             |
| 0034 | Oval, steep/undercut sides, concave base, 0.70 x 0.50 x 0.70m deep    |
| 0036 | Oval, steep sides, concave base, 0.58 x 0.48 x 0.33m deep             |
| 0038 | Pear-shaped, steep sides, fairly flat base, 0.32 x 0.26 x 0.13m deep  |
| 0040 | Oval, moderately steep sides, concave base, 0.32 x 0.26 x 0.14m deep  |
| 0042 | Oval, vertical/undercut sides, concave base, 0.48 x 0.36 x 0.70m deep |
| 0044 | Irregular in plan, steep or undercut sides, 1.20 x 0.90 x 0.64m deep  |
| 0046 | Circular, mod steep sides, concave base, 0.24m diameter, 0.24m deep   |
| 0048 | Oval, steep/undercut sides, sloping base, 0.40 x 0.32 x 0.50m deep    |
| 0050 | Circular, mod steep sides, concave base, 0.28m diameter, 0.14m deep   |
| 0052 | Circular, steep/undercut sides, concave base, 0.40m diam 0.46m deep   |
| 0054 | Oval, steep sides, concave base, 0.32 x 0.28 x 0.20m deep             |
| 0056 | Circular, steep sides, tapering base, 0.45m diameter, 0.46m deep      |
| 0064 | Circular, V-shaped profile, 0.16m diameter, 80mm deep                 |
| 0067 | Oval, mod steep sides, concave base, 0.56 x 0.44 x 0.26m deep         |
| 0069 | Circular, mod steep sides, concave base, 0.56m diam x 0.28m deep      |
| 0071 | Circular, mod steep sides, concave base, 0.40m diam x 0.25m deep      |
| 0073 | Oval, mod steep sides, concave base, 0.80 x 0.70 x 0.30m deep         |
| 0074 | Circular, V-shaped profile, 0.13m diameter, 0.15m deep                |
| 0076 | Oval, V-shaped profile, 0.13 x 0.10 x 0.15m deep                      |
| 0078 | Oval, mod steep sides, concave base, 0.40 x 0.30 x 0.16m deep         |
| 0080 | Circular, steep sides, concave base, 0.30m diameter x 0.18m deep      |
| 0082 | Oval, steep/vertical sides, concave base, 0.64 x 0.50 x 0.48m deep    |
| 0086 | Oval, V-shaped profile, 0.18 x 0.14 x 0.15m deep                      |
| 0088 | Oval, V-shaped profile, 0.15 x 0.12 x 0.10m deep                      |
| 0089 | Oval, steep sides, concave base, 0.32 x 0.26 x 0.19m deep             |
| 0091 | Circular or oval, mod steep sides, > 0.32 x 0.10 x 0.24m deep         |
| 0093 | Circular or oval, mod steep sides, > 0.32 x 0.13 x 0.16m deep         |
| 0096 | Circular, steep/vertical sides, concave base, 0.35m diam x 0.52m deep |
| 0098 | Circular, mod steep sides, concave base, 0.66m diam x 0.40m deep      |
| 0100 | Circular, V-shaped profile, 0.14m diameter x 0.16m deep               |
| 0101 | Circular, steep sides, concave base, 0.26m diameter x 0.12m deep      |
| 0103 | Oval, steep sides, narrow, concave base, 0.56 x 0.34 x 0.32m deep     |
| 0105 | Circular, V-shaped profile, 0.31m diameter x 0.30m deep               |
| 0108 | Pear-shaped, steep sides, concave base, 0.40 x 0.30 x 0.34m deep      |
| 0111 | Pear-shaped, vertical sides, concave base, 0.55 x 0.46 x 0.38m deep   |
| 0112 | Oval, steep/irregular sides, concave base, 0.40 x 0.30 x 0.20m deep   |
| 0114 | Oval, steep/vertical sides, concave base, 0.70 x 0.44 x 0.60m deep    |
| 0117 | Oval, steep sides, concave base, 0.19 x 0.10 x 0.10m deep             |
| 0119 | Oval, steep sides, tapering base, 0.20 x 0.15 x 0.13m deep            |
| 0120 | Circular, steep/vertical sides, concave base, 0.18m diam x 0.16m deep |
| 0122 | Circular, steep/vertical sides, concave base, 0.25m diam x 0.20m deep |
| 0124 | Oval, steep/vertical sides, flat base, 0.40 x 0.34 x 0.20m deep       |
| 0127 | Oval, steep sides, concave base, 0.33 x 0.25 x 0.23m deep             |
| 0129 | Oval, steep/vertical sides, flat base, 0.68 x 0.52 x 0.44m deep       |

Table 1. Descriptions of archaeological features in the excavation trench

The pits are filled with similar deposits of firm, brownish grey clay/silt with occasional pebbles. The fills are so alike that where adjacent features are intercutting it is impossible to determine their stratigraphic relationships. A few fragments of worked flint were recovered from the fills of features 0034, 0044, 0048 and 0111. A piece of burnt stone came from the fill of feature 0052 and a

snail shell from the fill of feature 0117. In addition, two unstratified sherds of prehistoric pottery were recovered from the northern part of the trench.

The pits are sealed by subsoil layer 0010, which is up to 0.60m thick. This deposit was removed mostly by machine, but a representative area measuring 2.20 x 1.50m in the south-eastern corner of the trench was hand-dug for potential finds retrieval. As a result, five fragments of ceramic building material and nine worked flints were recovered.

## 7.0 Finds evidence

Richenda Goffin

### Introduction

Finds were collected from eight contexts, as shown in Table 2:

| OP    | Pottery |      | CBM |      | Flint |      | Burnt Flint |      | Misc.               | Spot date               |
|-------|---------|------|-----|------|-------|------|-------------|------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|       | No.     | Wt/g | No. | Wt/g | No.   | Wt/g | No.         | Wt/g |                     |                         |
| 0010  |         |      | 5   | 111  | 9     | 55   |             |      | 1 stone @ 10g       | L Med/early post-med    |
| 0035  |         |      |     |      | 1     | 105  |             |      |                     | Bronze Age/<br>Iron Age |
| 0045  |         |      | 1   | 2    | 2     | 8    |             |      |                     | Later Prehistoric       |
| 0049  |         |      |     |      | 2     | 2    |             |      |                     | Later Prehistoric       |
| 0053  |         |      |     |      |       |      |             |      | 1 stone @ 8g        | Undated                 |
| 0109  | 2       | 2    |     |      | 3     | 31   | 1           | 37   |                     | Prehistoric             |
| 0110  |         |      |     |      | 1     | 2    |             |      |                     | Later Prehistoric       |
| 0116  |         |      |     |      |       |      |             |      | 1 land mollusc @ 1g | Undated                 |
| Total | 2       | 2    | 6   | 113  | 18    | 203  | 1           | 37   |                     |                         |

Table 2. Finds summary by context

### Pottery

Two fragments of unstratified pottery were recovered (0.002kg). They are small, abraded sherds made in a medium sandy fabric with occasional angular flint inclusions up to 2mm in length. The largest sherd is thick-walled and has orange external surfaces with a dark grey core. The pottery can only be given an overall prehistoric date.

### Ceramic building material

Six fragments of ceramic building material were collected (0.121kg). Three pieces of roof-tile were recovered from subsoil deposit 0010. They are made from red-firing medium sandy fabrics with clay pellet inclusions and are late medieval or post-medieval in date. A thicker fragmentary lump from 0010 may be the remains of a brick. It has a fine pink fabric with buff streaks and buff and red inclusions, and is of a similar date. A small slightly coarser fragment is made from a similar fabric. A very small and abraded piece of ceramic building

material was present in pit fill 0045 in Trench 7. It is made in a pale orange fine fabric with sparse buff streaks and also dates to the late medieval/early post-medieval period; it is likely to be intrusive.

### **Flint** (identifications by Colin Pendleton)

A total of 18 fragments of struck flint were recovered from the evaluation (0.203kg). These have been catalogued below:

#### *From 0109 (unstratified)*

1. A flake with flake scars in opposite directions on the bulbar and dorsal faces, with crude edge retouch.
2. A flint core with 1 squat hinge fractured flake removed. Probably Later Prehistoric.
3. A snapped blade, probably patinated, probably Mesolithic or Neolithic.

#### *From 0010 (subsoil, Trenches 7 & 8)*

1. Squat flake with limited edge retouch. Cortex on the dorsal face.
2. Squat flake with natural striking platform.
3. Flake with pronounced ripples, slight edge retouch.
4. Squat flake, irregular, slight edge retouch/use wear.
5. Thick flake with limited edge retouch.
6. Snapped thin flake.
7. Squat flake with steep edge retouch, probably a crude scraper.
8. A flake with limited crude edge retouch.
9. A long flake with limited edge retouch/use wear.

The flints from 0010 are all unpatinated. Overall the assemblage is relatively crude, and probably dates to the Middle or Late Bronze Age.

#### *From 0045 (pit fill, Trench 7)*

1. Thick squat flake with natural striking platform, limited edge retouch.
2. A snapped thin flake with limited edge retouch. Both Later Prehistoric.

#### *From 0049 (posthole fill, Trench 7)*

1. A small squat thin flakelet.
2. A small squat flakelet with hinge fracture. Both Later Prehistoric.

#### *From 0110 (posthole fill)*

1. A snapped long flake/blade with possible patination. Probably Later Prehistoric.

#### *From 0035 (posthole fill, Trench 7)*

1. An unpatinated flake core with single striking platform with only 2 large flakes removed – 1 hinge fractured, the other squat. Probably Bronze Age or Iron Age.

### **Miscellaneous**

A small, weathered triangular-shaped stone was collected from 0010. It is smooth with a slightly concave upper surface, but no surface striations and appears to be natural. A small fragment of burnt stone was also recovered from posthole 0053.

## Finds discussion

The presence of small quantities of flint from features, particularly in Trench 7 and the unstratified flint-tempered pottery does show that a part of the site was in use, probably during the later part of the prehistoric period, and more specifically, the Bronze Age.

## 8.0 Environmental evidence

Val Fryer

### Introduction and method statement

Three archaeological deposits were sampled to ascertain whether material suitable for C14 sampling was present within the plant macrofossil assemblages. 0029 is the fill of cut feature 0028, 0033 is the fill of cut feature 0032 and 0084 is a layer of natural clay/silt.

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 up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed on Table 3. All plant remains were charred.

### Results

The assemblages were all very small (<0.1 litres in volume), and all three were principally composed of pieces of black porous and tarry material (most having the appearance of modern industrial or fuel residues) and small fragments of coal. Charcoal fragments were present, but their occurrence alongside material which would appear to be intrusive within the contexts, casts doubt on their contemporaneity with the features and their usefulness for dating determinations.

| Sample number           | 1    | 2         | 3    |
|-------------------------|------|-----------|------|
| Context number          | 0029 | 0033      | 0084 |
| Charcoal <2mm           | x    | x         | x    |
| Charcoal >2mm           | x    |           |      |
| Charred root/stem       | x    |           | x    |
| Black porous material   | x    | xxx       | xx   |
| Black tarry material    | xx   | xxx       | xx   |
| Bone                    |      | x (burnt) | x    |
| Small coal fragments.   | xx   | xxx       | xx   |
| Sample volume (litres)  | 20   | 20        | 20   |
| Volume of flot (litres) | <0.1 | <0.1      | <0.1 |
| % flot sorted           | 100% | 100%      | 100% |

Table 3. Charred plant macrofossils and other remains

Key to Table 3

x = 1–10 specimens    xx = 10–50 specimens    xxx = 50–100 specimens

### **Recommendations for further environmental work**

With the exception of rare charcoal fragments, plant macrofossils are absent from the assemblages and, therefore, no further analysis is required. No material suitable for C14 dating has been identified.

## **9.0 Discussion and Conclusions**

The concentration of small pits in the south western part of the site is assumed to be of later prehistoric date, as suggested by the worked flints in some of their fills and the fact that they are overlaid by almost one metre of subsoil and topsoil.

The interpretation of these features is problematic. Many of them have the appearance of postholes, suggesting that they provide evidence for timber structures and associated activity. However, there are no obvious alignments of features to support the idea of structures and their distribution is rather haphazard. Some of the smaller or shallower features might even be the result of tree root or animal disturbance.

The environmental analysis of some of their fills reveals the presence of tarry material and coal of modern origin; it is assumed that these inclusions were introduced by root or animal action.

The distribution of the features presents a problem also, in that they are apparently confined to areas of natural clay/silt; despite careful investigation no similar features were found cutting the natural sand and gravel in the middle of the trench. However, it has been noted that the sand and gravel is lower than adjacent areas of clay/silt and it is possible that prehistoric features might have been removed from this area by natural erosion or during the reworking of subsoil layer 0010.

The presence of later prehistoric worked flints in these features, in 'natural' clay/silt layer 0109 and in overlying subsoil layer 0010 is taken therefore to indicate activity on the site at that time, but the nature of this activity cannot be determined on the available evidence.

Subsoil 0010 contains also some late medieval or post-medieval ceramic building material and is likely to represent a worked soil horizon (ploughsoil).

The archaeological evidence from the rest of the site can be summarised as follows:

Ditch 0005 in Trench 3 is undated but is likely to be of relatively late date given that it was recognised immediately below the topsoil, cutting subsoil 0002. Another ditch (not numbered) in Trench 19 is also undated, although in this case it appeared to be sealed by a layer of subsoil.

Shallow and irregular cut feature 0008 in Trench 6 is undated, but could also be of relatively late date.

The site was quarried extensively in the late 19th century, with extraction pits occurring everywhere except in the garden of 389 Bramford Road. Generally these pits are deep enough to have removed any evidence for earlier activity that might have existed on the site.

Given the limited and uncertain nature of the archaeological evidence from this site it is considered unnecessary to carry out further analysis of the results beyond that presented in this report.

#### **Disclaimer**

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Division alone. The Local Planning Authority and its archaeological advisors will determine the need for further work 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.

## **9.0 Acknowledgements**

Duncan Hawkins of CgMs Consulting commissioned the 2007 evaluation and excavation on behalf of Redrow Homes (Eastern) Ltd., who funded the work. Merchant Project Ltd. commissioned and funded the 2005 evaluation of 365 Bramford Road.

Keith Wade (SCCAS, Conservation Team) monitored the archaeological project.

The project was managed by John Newman and supervised by Kieron Heard. Martin Cuthbert and Steve Manthorpe assisted with the fieldwork (SCCAS, Field Projects Team).

Richenda Goffin prepared the finds report, with advice from Colin Pendleton (SCCAS, Post-Excavation Team).

## **10.0 Bibliography**

Breen, A. M., 2005, *321-439 Bramford Road, Ipswich*, SCCAS (unpubl)

MLM Environmental, 2007, *Land off Bramford Road, Ipswich: Phase II Geoenvironmental Assessment Report*, Redrow Homes (Eastern) Ltd (unpubl)

Wade, K., 2005, *Brief and specification for an archaeological evaluation to the rear of 321 – 439 Bramford Road, Ipswich*, SCCAS (unpubl)



## 11.0 Appendices

### Appendix 1: Brief and Specification

#### SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

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

##### **TO THE REAR OF 321-439 BRAMFORD ROAD, IPSWICH**

*The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety and other responsibilities, see paragraphs 1.7 & 1.8.*

### 1. Background

- 1.1 Planning consent [IP/04/01176/OUT] has been granted for residential development on land to the rear of 321-439 Bramford Road, Ipswich.
- 1.2 The planning consent contains a condition requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological work before development begins (Planning Policy Guidance 16, paragraph 30 condition). An archaeological evaluation of the consent area is required as the first part of that programme of archaeological work; decisions on the need for, and scope of, any further work will be based upon the evaluation.
- 1.3 The proposal lies within an area of very high archaeological potential adjacent to the Boss Hall multi-period archaeological complex and the site of St Albert's Church.
- 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. The developer should be aware that investigative sampling to test for contamination is likely to have an impact on any archaeological deposit which exists; proposals for sampling should be discussed with this office before execution.
- 1.8 The responsibility for identifying any restraints on field-work (e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c.) rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such restraints or imply that the target area is freely available.

## 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 natural soil processes. Define the potential for existing damage to archaeological deposits. Define the potential for colluvial/alluvial deposits, their impact and potential to mask any archaeological deposit. Define the potential for artificial soil deposits and their impact on any archaeological deposit.
- 2.4 Establish the potential for waterlogged organic deposits in the proposal area. Define the location and level of such deposits and their vulnerability to damage by development where this is defined.
- 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 Evaluation is to proceed sequentially: the desk-based evaluation will precede the field evaluation. If field-walking is proposed it will precede trenching. The results of the desk-based work and any field-walking are

to be used to inform the trenching design. This sequence will only be varied if benefit to the evaluation can be demonstrated.

- 2.7 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.
- 2.8 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.
- 2.9 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.
- 2.10 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

### 3. **Specification A: Desk-Based Assessment**

- 3.1 Consult the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), both the computerised record and any backup files.
- 3.2 Examine all the readily available cartographic sources (e.g. those available in the County Record Office). Record any evidence for historic or archaeological sites (e.g. buildings, settlements, field names) and history of previous land uses. Where permitted by the Record Office make either digital photographs, photocopies or traced copies of the document for inclusion in the report.
- 3.3 Assess the potential for documentary research that would contribute to the archaeological investigation of the site.
- 3.4 Provide a transcription of archaeological features from all available air photographs held by Suffolk County Council Environment and Transport Department and its SMR, the National Monuments Record and the Cambridge University Collection of Air Photographs, at a scale of 1:2500.

#### 4 **Specification B: Field Evaluation**

- 4.1 Examine the area for earthworks, e.g. banks, ponds, ditches. If present these are to be recorded in plan at 1:2500, with appropriate sections. A record should be made of the topographic setting of the site (e.g. slope, plateau, etc). The Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service must be consulted if earthworks are present and before proceeding to the excavation of any trial trenches.
- 4.2 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. If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' must be used. The trench design must be approved by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service before field work begins.
- 4.3 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.
- 4.4 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.
- 4.5 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.
- 4.6 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.
- 4.7 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 P Murphy, English Heritage Regional Adviser for

Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy and Wiltshire 1994) is available.

- 4.8 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.
- 4.9 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.
- 4.10 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).
- 4.11 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.
- 4.12 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. Any variations from this must be agreed with the Conservation Team.
- 4.13 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies.
- 4.14 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.

## 5. **General Management**

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors).
- 5.3 A general Health and Safety Policy must be provided, with detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this particular site.
- 5.4 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 5.5 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.

## 6. Report Requirements

6.1 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).

6.2 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monuments Record.

6.3 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

6.5 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.

6.6 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence. 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).

6.7 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.

6.8 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.

6.9 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.

- 6.10 County SMR sheets must be completed, as per the county SMR manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 6.11 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.
- 6.12 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: Keith Wade

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

Tel: 01284 352440

Date: 12 January 2005

Reference: Ipswich-Bramford Road 201

**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: Documentary research

Anthony M Breen

### Introduction

This site to the rear of 321-439 Bramford Road is now part of Ipswich but until the creation of civil parishes in 1894, it was part of the ecclesiastical parish of Bramford. Bramford, a vicarage, was linked with Burstall until 1885 and the parish was known as Bramford with the Chapel of Burstall. Burstall was served by a curate though unlike some other chapels it had its own burial ground. These are not the only administrative boundaries in this area. There was a separate boundary for the liberty of Ipswich that later after 1835 became the boundary of the municipal borough. The archaeological interest in this area is based on its close proximity to the Anglo-Saxon cemetery site at Boss Hall and as a possible location of a chapel dedicated to St Ethelbert. In his recently published study of medieval chapels in Suffolk Peter Northeast included this chapel under 'a miscellaneous group about which little or nothing is known... Some we know from their dedications were built for the veneration of specific saints: St Edmund at Hoxne, St Albert (Ethelbert) near Boss Hall in Bramford' (Northeast 1999, 56).

The area to the north of Bramford Road was historically in the ecclesiastical parish of Ipswich St Matthew's and the site Boss Hall in Sproughton. Each of these three parishes was in a separate sub division of the county known as a hundred. Ipswich was its own half-hundred whilst Bramford was in the hundred of Bosmere and Sproughton in the hundred of Samford. Ecclesiastically these parishes were also in three separate deaneries, all part of the archdeaconry of Suffolk.

### St Ethelbert

In Catholic tradition churches and chapels are dedicated to God through the intercession of a particular saint. St Ethelbert was a king of East Anglia who died in 794 and should not be confused with Ethelbert, king of Kent who died in 616. Dedications to local saints are rare and many are associated with places that had a particular significance in the saint's life. According to Richard of Cirencester's 15th century chronicle 'Speculaum Historale' Ethelbert had travelled from Bury St Edmunds to 'Villa Australis' for his betrothal to Altrida, the daughter of King Offa of Mercia. Ethelbert was murdered there by a certain Grimbert on the instigation of Cynethryth the wife of Offa. His body was eventually buried in Hereford Cathedral and his head enshrined at Westminster Abbey. According to another 15th-century writer, John Brompton his body was originally buried in the banks of the River Lugg in Herefordshire before his entombment at Hereford. Hereford Cathedral is dedicated to him. There are also another thirteen English churches dedicated to him besides Hereford. Most of these are in East Anglia and include four Suffolk churches, Hessett, Herringswell, Tannington and Falkenham. The Norfolk churches are Thurton, Larling, East Wretham, Stokesby and St Ethelbert, Norwich. Another church at Mundham St Ethelbert was made redundant in 1749. The modern parish of Burnham Sutton cum Ulph includes All Saints and St Ethelbert. One of the gateways of the 12th century Norwich Cathedral bears his name. In



Essex, the church of Belchamp St Ethelbert was destroyed in 1473. The other Essex dedication is the church at Little Stanway.

His name appears in a variety of different forms; Aethelborth, Aethelbeorht, Alburt, Albright, Albrytys and Albert.

### Maps

The site as shown on the 1:2500 Ordnance Survey Maps is now part of Ipswich with the modern boundary between Ipswich and Bramford following the railway line. The site of Boss Hall was to the west of the railway line and is now covered by a modern industrial estate surrounding Boss Hall Road on the south side of Sproughton Road. The formerly moated site of Boss Hall is shown on the earlier maps immediately to the west of the railway bridge carrying the Ipswich to Halesworth line that crosses the River Gipping at this point. The houses along Bramford Road are shown on the 2nd edition of the maps published in 1904 and appear unaltered on the modern maps. To the south of the houses an area of former meadowland backs onto the river to the south. On the first edition published in 1887 the site is part of two fields numbered 653 measured as 7.941 acres and 668 measured as 1.321 acres. The railway was opened in 1859.

The two boundaries as shown on the 1st edition of the Ordnance Survey map mentioned in the introduction to this report are particularly important. They do not follow the same course. Some of the early references to the chapel appear in documents that describe the boundaries of the borough and not the boundaries of the ecclesiastical parishes.

On the 1847 tithe map of Bramford (ref. P461/36) the site is shown in the field marked 595 on the map. This field is the largest of four fields to the east of Sproughton Road. These are numbered 595 to 598 and are described in the apportionment (ref. FDA36/A1/1a) as owned and occupied by Clement Kersey. The field 595 is named as Chapel Field and measured as 11 acres and 1 perch, 596 is listed as meadow and measured as 2 acres and 36 perches as is 597 measured as 2 acres 1 rood and 4 perches. The field 598 is listed as 'Disputable' and measured at 4 acres 3 roods and 4 perches. Kersey owned just over 37 acres in Bramford, with the exception of the field numbered 591 on the map. All the other pieces are to the south of the Bramford Road.

The full field boundary of Chapel Field is not shown on the Bramford tithe map. There is an additional piece measuring 3 roods and 35 perches shown as field 292 on the 1838 tithe map for Sproughton (ref. P461/233). This is listed in the apportionment (ref. FDA233/1A/1a) under the lands of Thomas Kersey who was the father of Clement Kersey. He was the owner of Boss Hall, a compact estate of over 213 acres lying in Sproughton to the north of the River Gipping. The boundaries of the Boss Hall estate were very compact. Only the field 'Sproughton Meadow' numbered 247 is outside the boundary of the estate. The estate also had lands in the neighbouring parish of Ipswich St Mathew's as shown on the 1845 tithe map (ref. P461/154). In the apportionment Clement Kersey is listed as owning 51 acres 2 roods and 16 perches giving a total for the estate in the three parishes as 302 acres 2 roods and 32 perches. There is

a reference to the land in Bramford and Ipswich in a 16th century document described later in this report.

There appears to be no earlier detailed maps of this area, though various parts of Bramford are shown in a book of maps dated May 1827 (ref. HB8/5/502). This book is described in the map catalogue as 'A Terrier of Glebe Lands belonging to Bramford and Burstall' though it does include numerous maps of other lands mainly related to the manor of Bramford Hall and to other properties in nearby parishes. The book includes a list of the lessees of 'Bramford Rectory cum Capella de Burtstall' from 1589 to 1821. The rectory of Bramford had been granted to Battle Abbey in 1094 but in 1542 it was granted to Christ Church, Canterbury and from that date the dean and chapter of Canterbury Cathedral were the patrons of the parish. According to White's Directory of Suffolk 'They have also a rectorial manor, in which their tenements hold leases of 21 years, renewable every seven years, on the payment of certain fines'. The list of lessees shows that this rectorial manor was leased to the various members of the Acton family from 1676 onwards. The Acton family were the lords of the main manor of Bramford Hall.

On a published map of the liberties of Ipswich dated 1812 (ref. MC4/54), the boundaries of Ipswich marked in this area are the same as on the Ordnance Survey map. The 1812 map shows the position of Boss Hall together with the fields called Long Acre and Whitman How. Joseph Hoskinson's 1783 map of Suffolk shows a different line for the boundary. On his map the boundary follows the river past Sproughton Church placing all the Boss Hall estate within Ipswich.

In the catalogue of the Iveagh Collection there is a reference to a 'Plan of 2 estates in Sproughton called Boss Hall and Stockden's Corner, the property of the Revd M. Charles Beaumont, rector of Winesham surveyed by Nathaniel Bacon in 1743'. Unfortunately this document formerly Phillips MS No. 15709 was 'missing before the Iveagh Manuscripts were purchased for the Suffolk Record Office'.

### **St Albert's Chapel**

Notes on the sites of this chapel are given in John Newman's article on 'The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Boss Hall'. These are based on a 'preliminary documentary search' and the notes are examined in greater detail for this report. The article mentions Chapel Field on the Bramford tithe map and continues:

The chapel indicated appears to be "Alburt's Chapel" (? St Aethelbeorht's, King of East Anglia, d 794), which is mentioned in c. 1518 in the will of John Squier, "Clerk of St Albright's Chapel near Ipswich" (Morley n.d.). The antiquarian writer Wodderspoon locates the chapel "near Bordshaw (Boss) Hall which stood in the fields on the south side of the lane leading from Bramford Road to Sproughton" (Wodderspoon 1850, 235). That this outlying portion of Bramford parish is closely connected to the main parish church is shown by Kirby, another antiquarian writer. Of Bramford, he wrote, "The church, with the Berewick of Burstall and Albrighteston, belonging to it, was given to Battle Abbey by King William Rufus"

(Kirby 1764).

In the bibliography to the article he lists 'Morley, C. n.d. : A Medieval History of Suffolk (unpublished manuscript in Suffolk Record Office, quoting Ipsw, Prob. Off Bk vii fol 236)'. The unpublished manuscript is now divided into parishes and arranged in folders. The reference to the chapel is in his notes on Boss Hall, filed under Sproughton (ref. HD 603/2/11). He quotes Wodderspoon's

Near Boss Hall seu Bordshaw Hall, an ancient building on the site of the house in the fields on the south side of the lane leading from Bramford-road to Sproughton, stood a chapel called Alburth's Chapel, though the exact spot is unknown. Its origin and possible connection with a religious house are alike doubtful, and no portion remains in 1850.

Morley continues:

Because no such manorial chapel, likely attached to Boss Hall, emerges in the 1352 perambulation of Ipswich bounds I suspect that the 1386 Lady Margaret Videlou was responsible for its foundation. However that may be, the sole reference to it emerges in the circa 1518 will of John Squier, an Ipswich councilman and in 1483 schoolmaster there and clerk "of St Albright's Chapel near Ipswich".

Morley's reference to John Squier is incorrect. John Squyer of Albrught's will was proved at the archdeaconry of Suffolk court on 19th March 1517 (ref. IC/AA2/7/236). He was from Aldeburgh. He was not a clerk and was buried in St Peter's churchyard at Aldeburgh. The error is found in other works, though not in the modern index. Unfortunately Morley does not give the source of his 1483 reference.

In referring to the 1352 perambulation Morley had probably used the version published in 'Bacon's Annals of Ipswich A. D. 1654'. In that version the description of the boundary is 'over the river under Bordshow Hall into the high way from Ipswich to Sprawton. And in a little lane between Joh : of Western tenement of Ipswich sporier ; and in the lane that goeth from Ipswich to the highway to Bramford, and from that high way to Wetman How, and from Witman How on a faire mere unto Lovetoft'. This is not the only published version of the perambulation. John Bransby published another transcript in 1815 that reads 'over the river unto Bordshow-hall (now Boss Hall) into the highway that cometh from Ipswich to St Alburth's chapel, into the highway that goeth to Sproughton, and in a little lane between John of Weston's tenement, of Ipswich, Sporier, and the lane that goeth from Ipswich to the highway to Bramford: and from Wetman-how, on a faire mere, unto Lovetoft Hall'. Bransby states, 'This appears to have been the first time the boundaries were ridden. A copy of it is entered in Bacon's book, and also in the large Domesday book belonging to the corporation. The boundaries were afterwards gone by orders of Great Courts held in 30th Hen. VI (1452), and 16th Ed. IV. (1477)'. One of these late 15<sup>th</sup> century perambulations was the source of the reference to 'St Albrytys Chapel'.

Bransby was involved with work by the borough to establish the boundaries of Ipswich and in his work he also published the 1522 perambulation. This same area is described

from the said Rever under Bordshawe Hall, the said precynct extendith on the same Ryver, and goith and ledith into an Alder kar, and so thorough the same Alder kar into an high

waie that comyth from Yepiswiche aforesaid unto Sprowton: and on that high waie the said precynct ledith by the tenement sumtyme olde John Weston Sporyer, sumtyme of Yepiswiche aforesaid nowe decaied, and in the tenure of Thomas Spryng, of Lavenham: and from the same tenement into a litill lane, and soo into a high way that comyth from Yepiswiche aforesaid unto Bramford: and soo in the same highwaie, by the Long Aker, and that from thens the same precinct turneth again on the right hande oute of that high-waye unto a meare faste by an hill called Whitman Hoo.

In 1812 the same boundaries were described as

in the N. E. corner of Mr Collinson's Boss-hall, and go nearly in a straight line to the gate by the common road leading from Ipswich to Sproughton ( in going from the river to the gate, you pass a post in the meadow, which shews the bounds between Sproughton and Bramford), having crossed the road, turn a little to the left, and go to a fence of the field you enter and by that into a long piece of pasture called Long Acre: at the end of that pasture, near Mr Hick's Barn, cross the road from Ipswich to Bramford where stands a post marked Mathew's Bounds and proceed up that field to a post marked IPS near a pit on the hill called Whitman Hoe.

Some of the original perambulations used by Bransby have survived and are still in the borough collection (Allen 2000, 13-14). There were also perambulations of 1674, 1694 and 1721, though the earlier documents are missing. The field Long Acre is mentioned in 1522 and 1812 and the tenement of John Weston is mentioned in 1352 and 1522, though in the latter it is decayed and owned by Thomas Spring. Witman How is mentioned in all three documents. The boundaries were regularly checked and marked. In the case of any dispute the evidence of those who remembered earlier perambulations would be requested. The lands were subject to tithes and lay taxes raised by different authorities and collected by local official who no doubt ensured that lands were not lost from their respective jurisdiction. The boundary as shown on the 1812 map is highly likely to be the same as that described in 1352.

References to most of these place names mentioned in the perambulations can be found in 16th-century manuscript describing a survey of the manor of Bramford (ref. HB8/1/679). The document written in Latin is undated but at the back of the book there is an entry in the same hand to a manorial court held on Sunday 6th April in the second year of the reign of Philip and Mary 1554. The survey describes much of the land as having been 'late the abbot of Battle'. There is a full description of lands 'beginning near Whytmans Howe' on folio 62r this begins with 'land within the territory of Ipswich late Spring (the boundary lying between Bramford and Ipswich) on the east and abuts on the said common way leading towards Ipswich on the south'. The field described is probably 591 on the Bramford tithe map. Again there is a reference to Thomas Spring. The survey continues with numerous references to the 'Hundredwaye' but no references at all to the chapel. This document would be of greater importance for a study of the manor of Bramford Hall and could be usefully compared with the 1827 book of maps.

The assertion found in both Wodderspoon and Morley that the chapel was not connected to any religious house is open to question. Thomas Tanner whilst he was commissary of the diocese of Norwich compiled an index of all the institutions and collations drawn from the bishops' registers (ref. Norfolk Record Office DN Reg. 31/2). He records the names of the incumbents and

the patrons for each parish with the date of presentation. His index is arranged in two volumes, one for Norfolk and the other for Suffolk. The parishes are listed alphabetically under their deaneries. The list for Bramford begins with a presentation dated November 1299. The institution was made on the nomination of the bishop but at the presentation of the patron who was the abbot of Battle. The abbots were responsible for all the presentations up to the appointment Adam Taylor in May 1541 when the king was patron. In 1567 when Richard Snow was presented the patrons were the dean and chapter of Canterbury Cathedral. Amongst the list of names there are two appointments of particular interest. On 11th January 1444, John Nevyle was appointed to Bramford with the chapels of Burstall and St Albert "*cum capelli de Burstall et Sancti Alberti*" and again on 11th June 1504 Richard Willes was appointed to the church and two chapels.

In the 1827 book of Bramford maps there is a list of the post medieval leases of the rectory covering the years 1589 to 1821. The full text of one of these leases is preserved amongst the Commonwealth Papers at Lambeth Palace Library. During the Commonwealth period (1649-1660) the property of the church was confiscated by the state and surveyed. The rectory had been demised, that is leased to Edward Colborne on 29th June 1641. He enjoyed the revenues in return he had 'to repayre sustain and mainetane the parsonage, barne and all the buildings demised together with the chancel of the Parishe church of Bramford' (ref. Lambeth Palace Library Comm. XIIa/19/14-16). Though the practice of leasing the rectory may have been post medieval the responsibility for repairs would have been the responsibility of the rectors, that is Battle Abbey, in medieval times.

Amongst the various documents in the Iveagh Collection, there is a medieval deed known as a quitclaim listed in the catalogue under Whitton that relates directly to the site of the chapel (ref. HD 1538/421/1). It is dated 2nd March 1348:

William, son of William Deise of Gippeswic [Ipswich] and Isabel formerly the wife of William Deise quitclaims for their lifetime to John, son of Robert Ook of Braunford [Bramford] and Margarey his wife a piece of land lying in Braunford between land pertaining to the chapel of St Albert in Braunford on the north and the highway leading from Sproutone [Sproughton] bridge towards Gippeswic on the south, one head abutting west on the close of Robert le Gardener the other head abutting east on the tenement of John, the son of Robert Ook.

The witnesses are listed as Robert Le Gardener, John Algor, William le Qwhite, Richard Garlond, John Norman, Thomas Bruges and others. Unfortunately the document does not mention the John Weston mentioned in the 1352 perambulation, though it is clear that the land belonging to the chapel is between the roads to Sproughton and Bramford and not to the east of these roads.

### **The Manor of Boss Hall**

According to Copinger 'This lordship was in the time of Henry III vested in Edward de Bordeshawe who resided at Boss Hall and in whose family it remained for several generations. Robert de Bordeshawe was lord in 1275'. In 1386 the manor passed to Margaret Videlieu for the term of her life. After her

death in 1395 the manor passed to John Stapulton. In 1423 Thomas Charlton of London and Alice his wife are mentioned in connection with this manor. He was a mercer and alderman of London and appears to have held the lordship in 1448 by the right of his wife Alice. Alice Charlton is again mentioned in deeds dated 1453. Copinger continues that 'in the time of Henry VIII the lordship was vested in Thomas Spring'. He died in 1523 when the manor passed to his son Sir Richard Spring who sold the manor in 1545 to John Bull. The manor remained with this family until 1655. The manor then passed to the Broke family who sold it in 1817 to Thomas Kersey the father of Clement Kersey. In 1817 the manor consisted of 'The reputed manor or lordship of Boss Hall and capital freehold estate, comprising of 236a 1r 26p'. Copinger did not work from original documents but used those contemporary indexes and published works that were available to him. Most of the details of his account of this manor were drawn from the indexes to the additional charters in the then British Museum Library, now held at the British Library. The charters are likely to have been part of the antiquarian papers of William S. Fitch purchased by the Museum following his death in 1859.

The Iveagh Collection held at the Suffolk Record Office in Ipswich is another antiquarian collection accumulated by Sir Thomas Phillips before his death in 1872. The collection includes other documents listed under Sproughton relating to the manor though other documents relate to land other parts of the parish the manor. A party to the earliest deed dated 11th November 1332 is Robert son of Robert de Bordeshowe. Thomas Chalton is mentioned in a deed of 1426 as holding other lands in Sproughton and elsewhere. He is again mentioned in two deeds dated 1448. He is specifically mentioned as having been the lord of the 'manor of Bordesowe' in a deed dated 24 March 1453. The document is possibly the counterpart of the other held in the British Library.

The name of Thomas Sprynge appears in a deed of 1516. In this deed the property is described as the 'manor of Bordyshawe, 6 messuages, 300 acres land, 40 acres meadow, 100 acres pasture, 40 acres wood, 100s rent in Sproughton, Wix Ufford, Wix Bishop, Stoke by Ipswich, Bramford, Whitton and Brookys by Ipswich'. The first deed to specifically describe the lands of the manor dated 1545 offers the following description '1 messuage, 1 toft, 1 dovecote, 1 garden, 160 acres land, 20 acres meadow, 100 acres pasture, 10 acres wood, 10 acres heath, 10 s rent in Sproughton'. The only other deed that describes the manor itself is dated 1641 and it was then '1 messuage, 1 cottage, 1 garden, 1 orchard, 163 acres land, 17 acres meadow, 23 acres pasture, 10 acres heath in Sproughton, Bramford and Ipswich' (Ref. HD 1538/354/1-34). Though the 1545 deed does not mention any other parish other than Sproughton the deeds 1516 and 1641 include lands in Bramford and Ipswich. The reference in the mid 16th-century survey of the manor of Bramford mentions lands owned by Spring as does the 1522 perambulation. In both instances the land appears to be in the same position as the lands owned by the Kersey family in the nineteenth century. It may be reasonable to suggest that the boundaries of the estate were set by at least the 15th century if not before and further detailed research may confirm this suggestion.

The Broke Family papers are now part of the De Saumarez Collection and include a mid 13th-century deed to which Roger de Bordeshowe was a party and 'Richard de Bordeshoe, Manasser and Nicholas his brothers' were witnesses. Other family members are mentioned in other 13th-century deeds (ref. HA93 2/2473-2475).

It is interesting to note that none of the deeds as they appear in the indexes make any mention of the chapel. Copinger however was only interested in the descent of the manor and there might be additional details in the original documents.

### **Conclusion**

This report cannot be conclusive. There are a number of medieval documents relating to both Sproughton and Bramford that require a detailed study before the boundaries of the various manors can be established with certainty.

This site is not the site of the chapel of St Albert or Ethelbert. The deed of 1348 mentions land belonging to the chapel between the roads from Ipswich to Bramford and Sproughton. That area is to the west of the railway line. The other geographic reference to the chapel is in the 1352 perambulation. This document is describing the boundaries of the liberty of Ipswich and not the boundaries of the ecclesiastical parishes. The two references 1444 and 1504 taken from the bishops' registers link the chapel with the rectory of Bramford then under the patronage of Battle Abbey and not the rectory of Sproughton. The 1517 reference to the will of John Squier is erroneous, though a second reference given by Morley to a 1483 document has not been traced and there is the possibility of further references to the chapel in late medieval wills.

The link between the chapel and Battle Abbey has not been fully explored and there appears to be a possibility that further references to it should appear amongst their records.

The site was part of the manor of Boss Hall from at least the 15th century and quite possibly before that date. The surviving documents for the manor are deeds transferring the property and lordship. There appears to be no court rolls, rentals, surveys or account rolls for the manor. The deeds only refer to the manor as a messuage and a single cottage or toft suggesting that this manor was little more than a single farm. This suggests that this site does not contain any medieval buildings.

The boundaries of Ipswich seem to have been well established before the 1352 perambulation. References to Witman How and the Hundred Mere appear in a variety of sources and it may be possible to find even earlier references to them though this is outside the scope of the report.

### **Documentary references**

#### **Suffolk Record Office, Ipswich**

*Tithe Maps and Apportionment*

P461/36 and FDA36/1A/1a Bramford 1848

P461/154 and FDA154/1A/1a Ipswich St Mathew's 1845  
P461/233 and FDA233/1A/1a Sproughton 1838  
HB8/5/502 Book of Maps Bramford and elsewhere 1827  
MC4/54 Map Liberties of Ipswich 1812

*Wills: Archdeaconry of Suffolk*

IC/AA2/7/236 Will John Squyer Albrught (Aldeburgh) 1517

*Microfilm*

JC1/5/2 Tanner's Index (Norfolk Record Office DN/Reg 31/2 (c. 1700))

*Manorial Documents and Deeds*

HA93 2/2473-2475 De Saumarez Collection; Deeds Sproughton, 13<sup>th</sup> century  
HB8/1/679 Survey of manor of Bramford Hall (c. 1554)  
HD 1538/354/1-35 Iveagh Collection Deeds Sproughton 1332 – 1669  
HD 1538/421/1 Deed Whitton 1348

### **Lambeth Palace Library**

Comm. XIIa 19/14-16 Parliamentary Survey of the Rectory of Bramford May 1650

### **Printed Works**

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Ryan, P., 1909, 'St Ethelbert' in *Catholic Encyclopedia*, Vol V. See <http://www.newadvent.org>



### Appendix 3: Contents of the stratigraphic archive

| Type  | Quantity           |
|---|--------------------|
| Context register sheets                           | 5x A4 paper        |
| Trench description sheets                         | 19x A4 paper       |
| Context recording sheets                          | 54x A4 paper       |
| Environmental sample register sheets              | 1x A4 paper        |
| Environmental sample recording sheets             | 3x A4 paper        |
| Combined plan/section drawing sheets              | 4x A4 drawing film |
| Multi-context plan of main excavation             | 1x A1 drawing film |
| Survey data (levels)                              | 2x A4 paper sheet  |
| Digital images                                    | 34x jpg images     |
| Digital image register sheets (on-site version)   | 2x A4 paper        |
| Digital image register sheets (archive version)   | 2x A4 paper        |
| Monochrome contact prints                         | 1x sheet           |
| Monochrome image register sheet (archive version) | 1x A4 paper        |
| Report (SCCAS report no. 2007/189)                | 1x A4 ring-bound   |

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