

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

41, Beeches Road, West Row, Mildenhall MNL 593

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING, 2007
(Planning app. no. F/2007/0460)



R. Brooks
Field Team
Suffolk C.C. Archaeological Service

© March 2008

Lucy Robinson, County Director of Environment and Transport
Endeavour House, Russel Road, Ipswich, IP1 2BX

SCCAS Report No. 2008/023





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All Suffolk C.C. Archaeological Service unless otherwise stated.

Rob Brooks Excavation Supervisor
Richenda Goffin Finds Manager
Gemma Adams Project Assistant



Acknowledgements

This project was funded by Cameron Ventures Ltd and was monitored by Robert Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team). The fieldwork was carried out by Rob Brooks from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team. Andrew Tester provided advice during the production of the report.

The post-excavation work was managed by Richenda Goffin. Finds processing and the production of site plans and sections were carried out by Gemma Adams, and the specialist finds and environmental reports by Richenda Goffin.

Summary

The monitoring of footing trenches for housing uncovered intense evidence of settlement activity from the 17-19th centuries. A developed ploughsoil was the only evidence for previous land use and was probably medieval or early post medieval. There was no evidence of the Roman or prehistoric settlement identified on other sites within the vicinity.

SMR information

Planning application no. F/2007/0460
Date of fieldwork: 25th October – 2nd November, 2007
Grid Reference: TL 674761
Funding body: Cameron Ventures Ltd
Oasis reference. suffolkc1-35394



Introduction

A series of visits was made to the former site of 41 Beeches Road Mildenhall from 25th October to 2nd November 2007 to monitor the ongoing excavation of footing trenches for four properties and associated garages to be erected on the site. The work was carried out to a Brief and Specification issued by Robert Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team – Appendix 1) to fulfil a planning condition on application F/2007/0460. The work was funded by the developer, Cameron Ventures Ltd. The site lies at TL 674/761 at c. 5.8m OD.

Interest in the site was based upon, its location within the existing settlement, and earlier finds from the area that are recorded in the Historic Monuments Register for Suffolk. These are plotted below on figure 1.

- | | |
|---------|--|
| MNL 193 | Large Roman scatter including pottery and flue tile. |
| MNL 202 | Acheulean hand-Axe |
| MNL 312 | Flint knife and axehead |
| MNL 538 | Large amount of platform gunflint production waste. |

A number of wells are also recorded on the first to third editions of the Ordnance Survey maps.

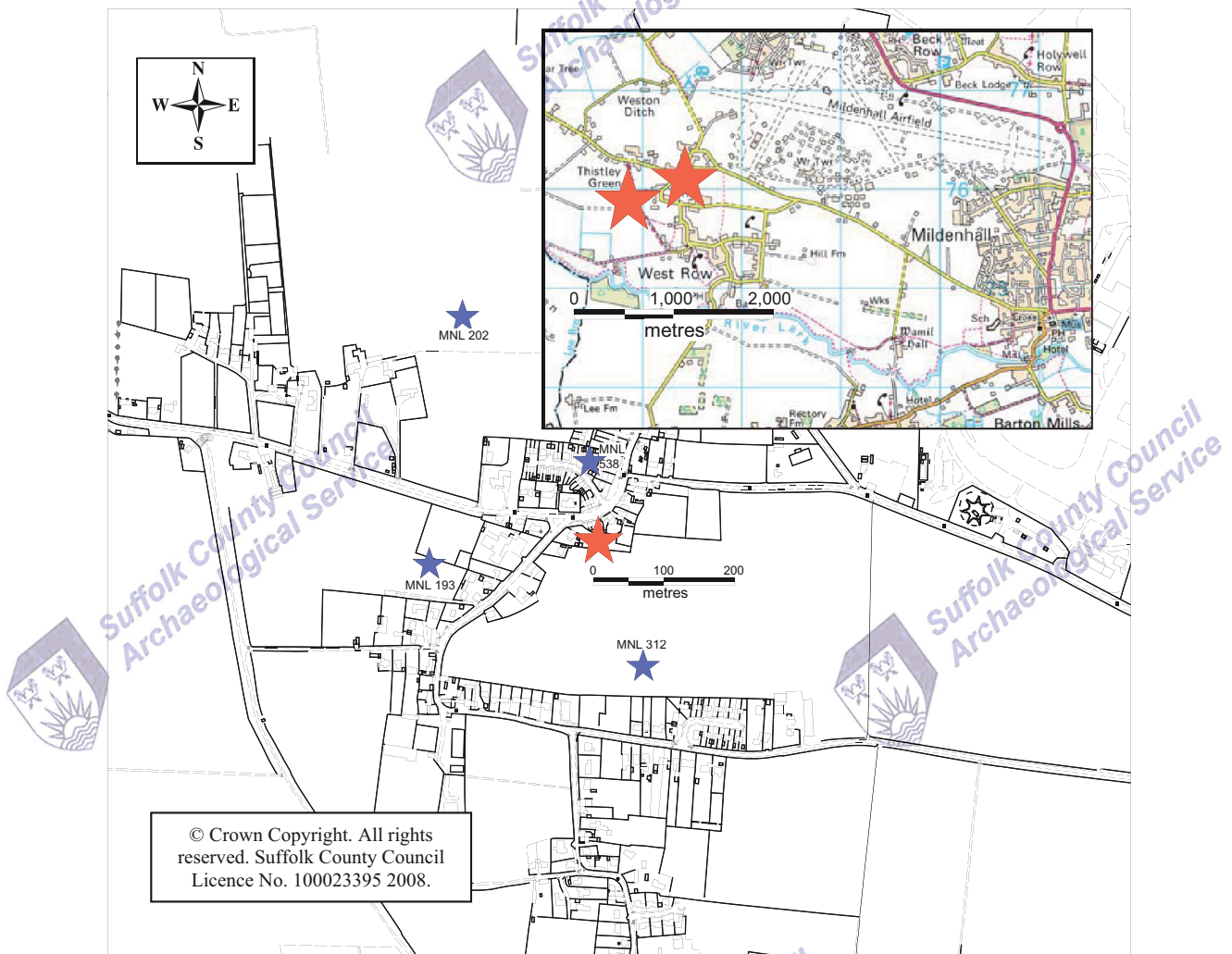


Figure 1. Site location and known archaeological listings

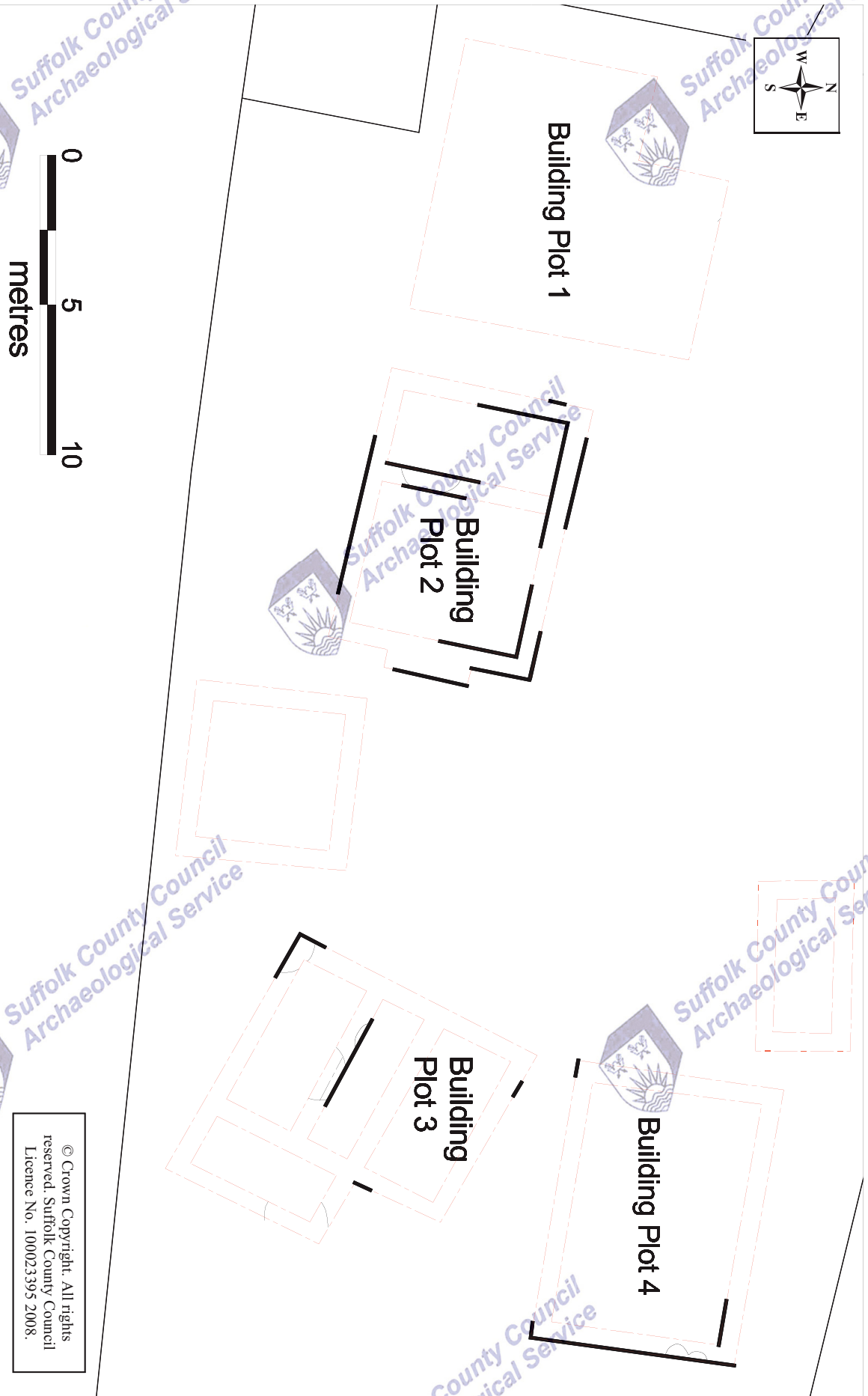


Figure 2. Trench plan

Methodology

A series of between 0.6 and 1.2m wide footing trenches was excavated using a toothed bucket (Fig.2). Soil and feature profiles were cleaned by hand and drawn at scales of between 1:20 or 1:50. Plans were also made of clear features at a scale of 1:50. Hand excavation of features was carried out where it was practicable. All trenches were monitored, except for those on Building Plot 1. Upcast soil was also examined for finds. Records made on site have been input into an MS Access database and recorded using the Historic Environment Record code MNL 593. Finds were washed, marked and quantified, and the resultant data was also entered onto a database. Inked copies of profile and feature sections have been made.

An OASIS form has been completed for the project (reference no. suffolkc1-35394) and a digital copy of the report submitted for inclusion on the Archaeology Data Service database (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/grevlit>).

Results

(Figs. 3-8)

Excavation of the footing trenches revealed various layers of modern material left over from recent construction on the site, extending down in places to c.0.3-0.4m, which was often recorded in the trench profiles. The southern edge of Plot 3 had been disturbed by a recent garden pond and a modern brick structure disturbed the garage footings between plots 2 and 3.

In undisturbed areas, a layer (c.0.22m) of garden soil remained. This was located above a plough soil 0018 that appeared with a shallow depth in Trench 10, 0025 and contained a low density of artefacts, becoming deeper in Building Plots 3 and 4. Below this the pit features found on the site became visible, cutting slightly into the chalk layer.

Building plot 4

(Figs. 3, 6, 7 and 8)

The trenches are discussed in the order in which they were excavated. The trenches associated with Plot 4 were the first to be opened and revealed 3 possible pits, numbered 0014, 0016 and 0019. There was also the remainder of a possible wall 0006. See figure 6 for a soil profile.

Pits 0014 and 0016 only became visible in plan when the natural chalk level was reached, into which they had been partially dug (Fig. 8). They were adjacent to one another, however no relationship could be established between the pits or soil layer 0018. As a result of this it was impossible to establish the dimensions of these features, though it is clear that 0014 was at least 0.75m wide and 0016 at least 0.8m, along a NNE-SSW axis. They were also both at least 0.1m deep and were probably originally much deeper. They were both filled with a relatively uniform light grey/brown sandy silt- numbered as 0015 and 0017 respectively.

Pit 0019 was similar to 0014 and 0016 in that it was also very shallow and filled with a material very similar to layer 0018, numbered 0020 (Fig. 7). However, as the chalk subsoil was higher, and the ground therefore much harder to dig, the feature was shallower. It measured at least 0.6m wide and had a flat base.

Feature 0006 was a deposit that may have been the foundations of a wall, consisting of a number of whole bricks and other fragmented pieces of ceramic building material with some mortaring and was probably the earliest feature of the site (Fig. 7). These bricks were dated to the medieval to post-medieval period (see the finds discussion) but are likely to be early 17th century. As the structure was poorly bonded and insubstantial it is unlikely to have underpinned a particularly heavy structure. This may not have been a representative sample of the feature, as the area was quite disturbed.

Apart from these features, Trenches 1, 2 and 4 (contexts 0002, 0003 and 0005, respectively) produced post-medieval pottery from the 17th century onwards, as well as animal bone and a 19th century glass bottle.

Building plot 3

(Figs. 4, 6 and 7)

Building Plot 3 contained four pits, numbered 0008, 0010, 0012 and 0053, the first three of which were partially excavated.

Pit 0008 fill 0009 was found at the corner of Trench 7 (0022) and Trench 8 (0023) (Fig.7). From what was visible in plan it appears to have been a large, round cut. Like the other pits, this feature only went slightly into the chalk natural and the fill was similar to the make-up of layer 0018. However, it was clear at its north-east corner that it was cutting partly through some material assumed to be from layer 0018, suggesting it to be more recent than this layer. If all the pits on the site were roughly contemporary, which their form and apparent function suggests, this may be the only evidence that they were dug after the build up of ploughsoil 0018. The finds from this pit include 2 fragments of pottery dating to the 19th century.

Pit 0010, fill 0011 and pit 0012 and fill 0013, were located within Trench 9 (0024) and no relationship was visible between either pits or with layer 0018 (Fig.7). Neither was fully visible in plan or section and as such any dimensions measured were only of the visible extent within the confines of the trench. Pit 0010 was located north-east of pit 0012 and was 100% excavated. It appeared to be circular in plan. Pit 0012 was very similar in form. The one fragment of pottery and one of ceramic building material from fill 0011 gave pit 0010 an earliest date of the late 17th to 18th century. The finds of pottery and ceramic building material from fill 0013 meant that pit 0012 had an earlier possible date of infilling from the 16th-18th century. Other finds from this fill included an iron object, animal bone and a piece of clunch-type building material.

Pit 0053, fill 0054, was not excavated, but appeared to be relatively similar in form to the other pits on the site. It was also filled again with a very similar material to that which made up layer 0018. It was most likely round or sub-oval in plan. It measured approximately 1.3m by 1.9m, but could not be seen fully in plan (Fig. 4).

One other find from this plot came from Trench 5, 0007, and was an unstratified piece of Transfer Printed ware dish from the 19th century.

Building plot 2

(Figs. 5-8)

This was the third building plot to be excavated and again contained a series of pits similar to those in Plots 3 and 4. However, the activity seems to have been more intensive in this area, with a greater number of potential features visible in the sections. Many of these were very difficult to define though, due to the continued difficulty in recognising the interface between cuts and layer 0018, the interference of modern material and the relative shallowness of the chalk subsoil in this area.

Pit 0038 was a clearly cut feature towards the south end of Trench 14, 0029, (Figs. 7 and 8). It had a slightly unusual form compared to some of the other pits on the site as it had slightly less steeply sloped sides, though its fill and dimensions suggest it was possibly contemporary and for the same function.

Trench 10, 0025, contained one potential pit, numbered as 0034 (Fig. 8). It was only visible on the east side of the trench, which casts some doubt as to whether it was just an undulation of the chalk. It measured 2.9m wide by 0.3m deep and had a largely flat base and one visible, gently sloping side.

The north-west half of Trench 11, 0026, contained 3 potential pits, numbered 0030, 0032 and 0040 (Fig. 8). Pit 0030 was located to the south-east of 0032 on the south side of the section, with pit 0040 located opposite both, on the north side of the section. No relationship was visible between the pits or layer 0018. Pit 0040 however, was wider with a far less clearly defined cut. As such it is hard to identify if either 0030 or 0032 were the same as 0040. Pit 0030 was approximately 1.55m wide and at least 0.55m deep, pit 0032 was 1.45m wide and at least 0.4m deep, whilst pit 0040 was 2.7m wide and at least 0.35m deep.

The north-east end of Trench 11, 0026, contained a further two potential pits, numbered 0042 and 0044 (Fig. 8). Pit 0042 is located on the south section of Trench 11 and appeared to have a fairly well-defined cut, running quite deeply into the chalk. It measured approximately 1.9m wide by 0.45m deep and its east edge bordered onto pit 0036, though a relationship was not visible. The one edge of pit 0044 that was visible in this trench and in the north section did not line up with pit 0042 and appears to be part of a much larger feature spreading into Trench 12. It had gently sloping, curved sides and was c.1.45m wide and 0.55m deep.

Trench 12, 0027, had three potential pits in it, numbered 0036, 0044 and 0046 (Fig.8). All three have relatively flat bases curving up gently to slightly sloping sides. It is possible that all three features were actually one large, irregular pit. If they are separate features there is no clear relationship between each other or layer 0018. Pit 0036 measures >2.35m wide and >0.55m deep. Pit 0044 measures >3m wide and >0.4m deep. As a possible re-cut (or vice-versa) of pit 0044, pit 0046 was only c.1.1m wide by c.0.4m deep.

Trench 13, 0028, contained two possible pits on the south section of the trench, numbered 0048 and 0050 (Fig. 8). It is possible that both were actually only undulations in the chalk, as they had gently sloping sides and gently curved bases and did not appear to be very deep, although this last point was difficult to establish as they were both filled with similar material to layer 0018. As such, no relationship between the features was clear either. Pit 0048 was c.3m wide and >0.4m deep, whilst pit 0050 was >2.3m wide and >0.3m deep.

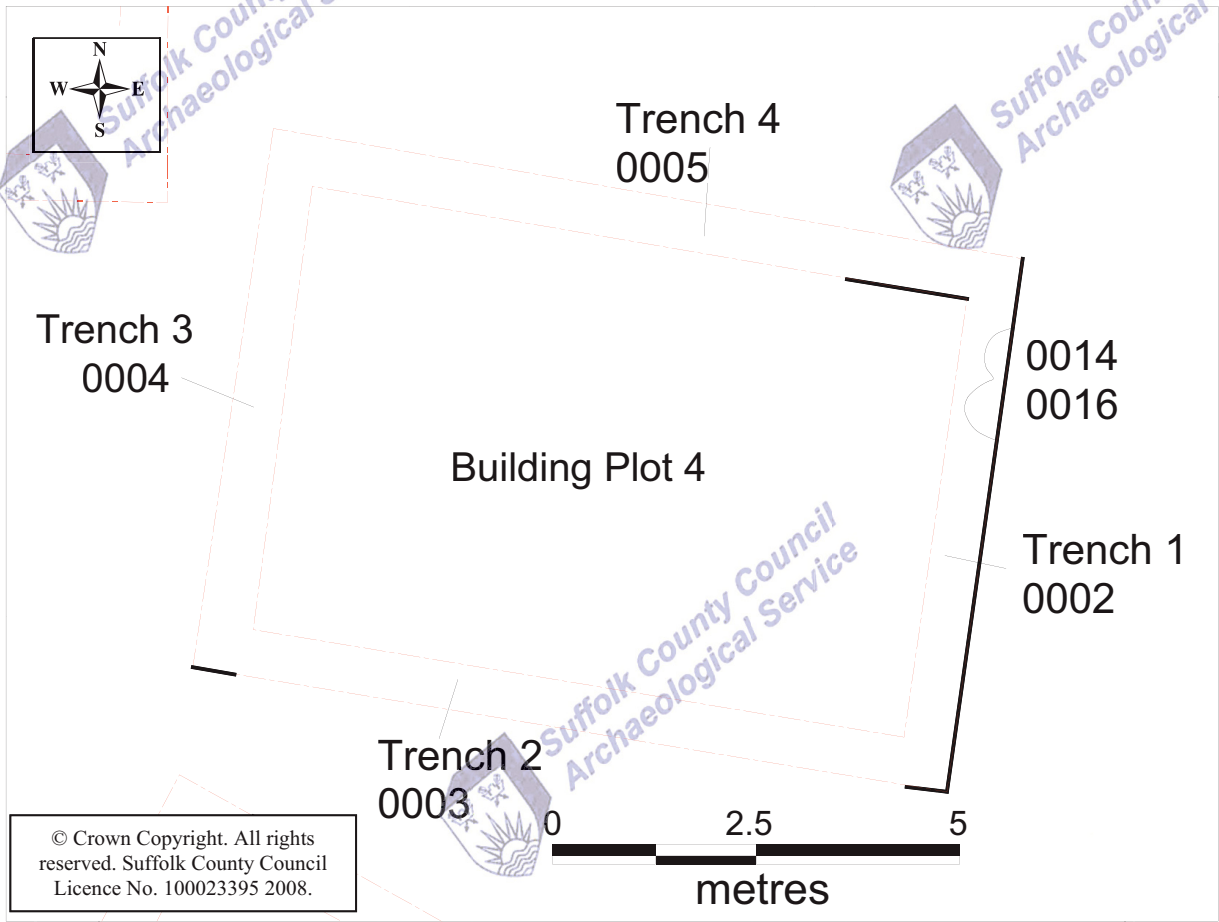


Figure 3. Building Plot 4 trenches and features

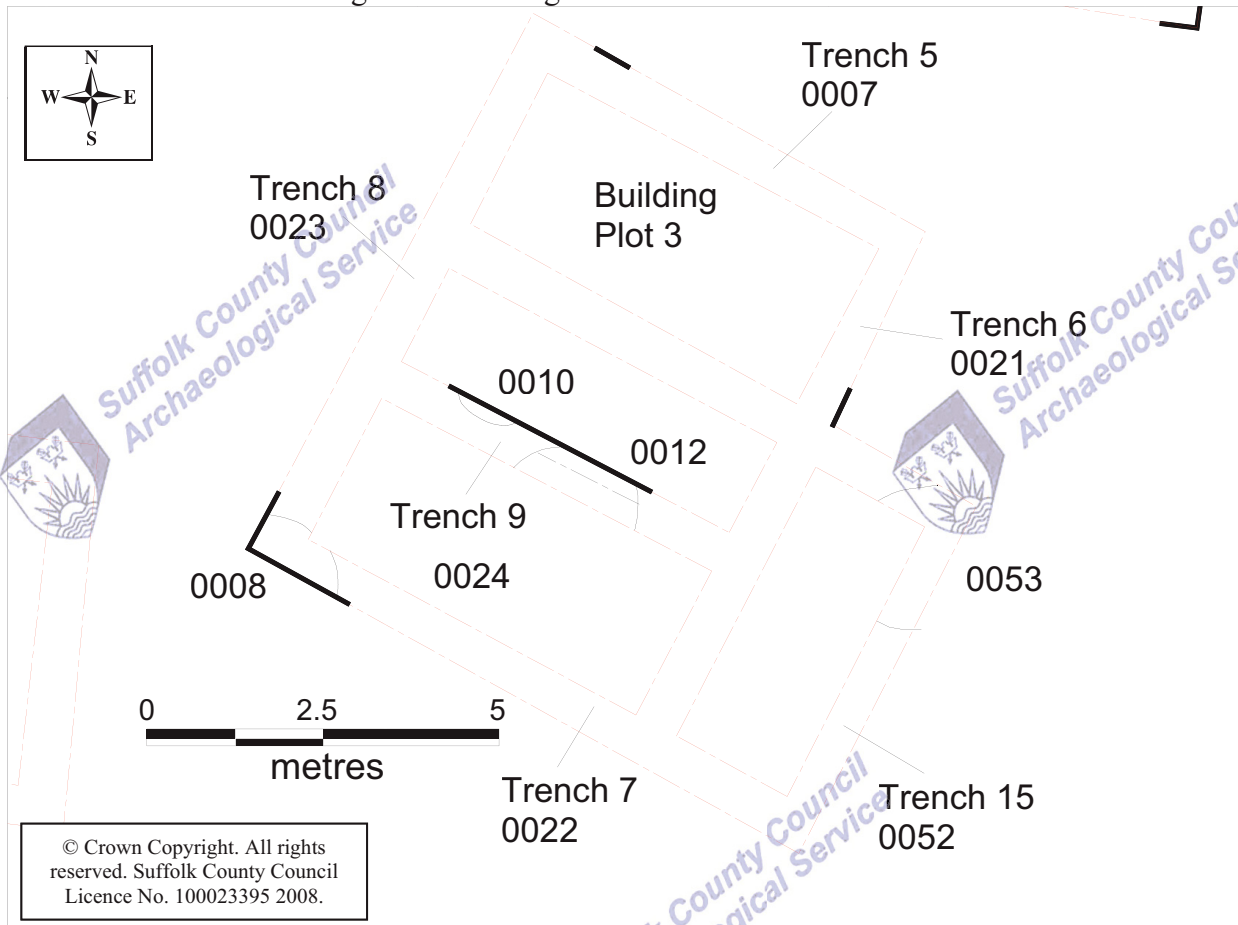


Figure 4. Building Plot 3 trenches and features

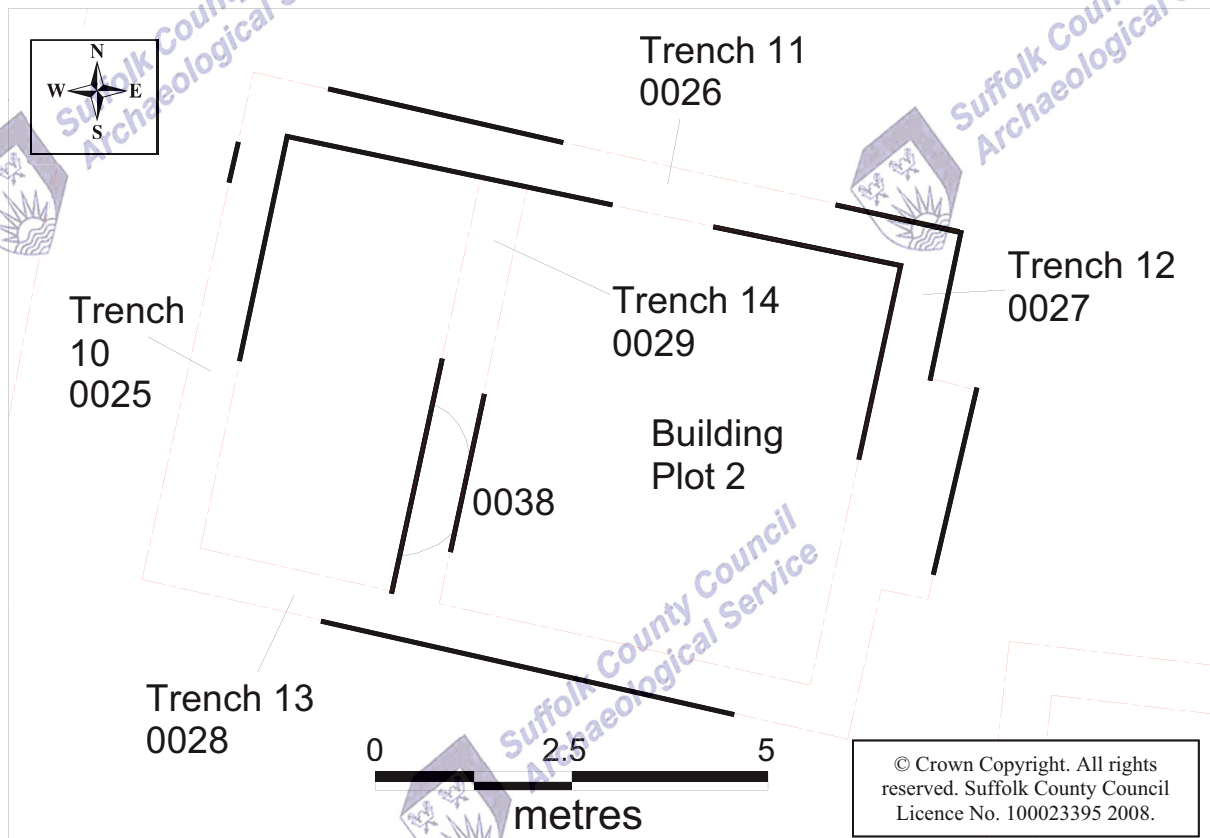


Figure 5. Building Plot 2 trenches and features

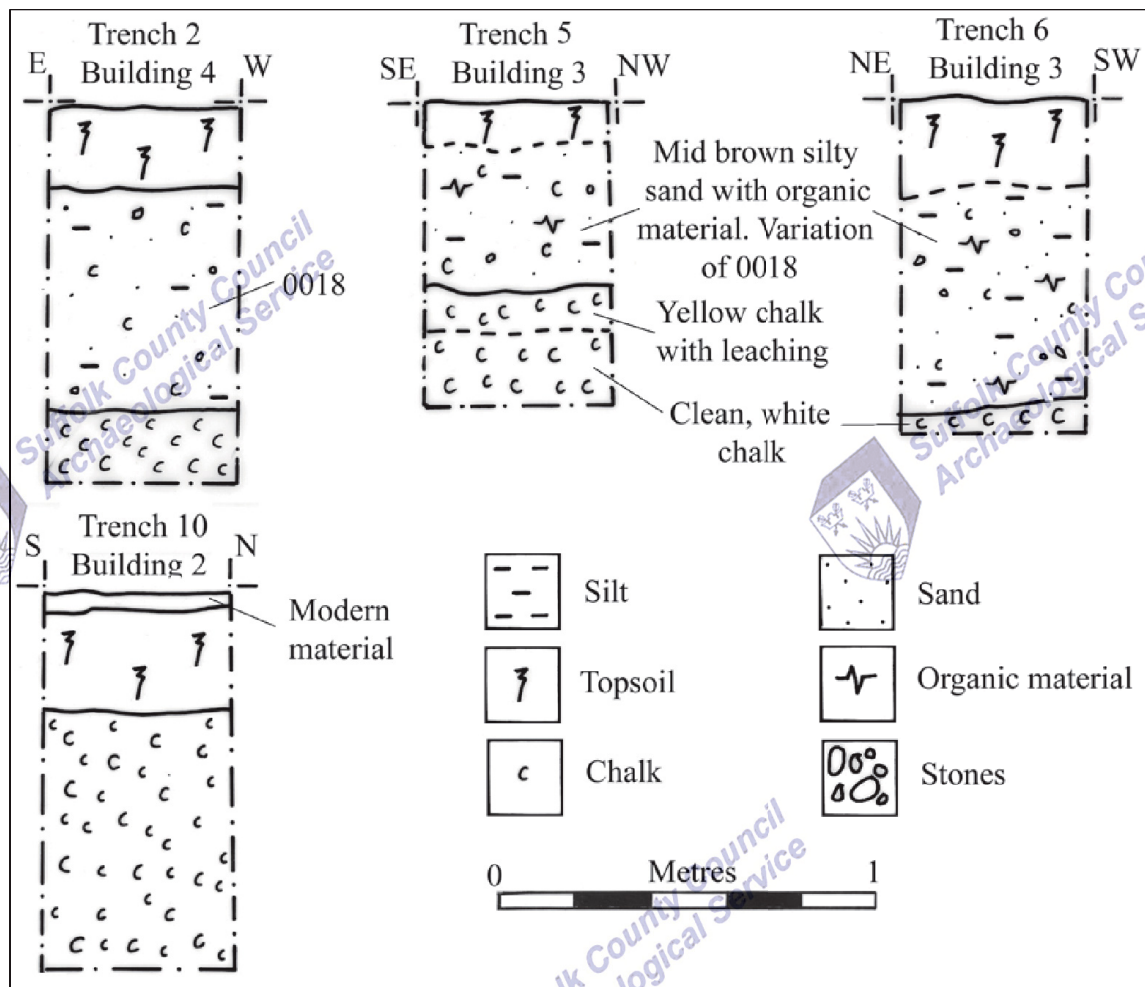


Figure 6. Trench profiles

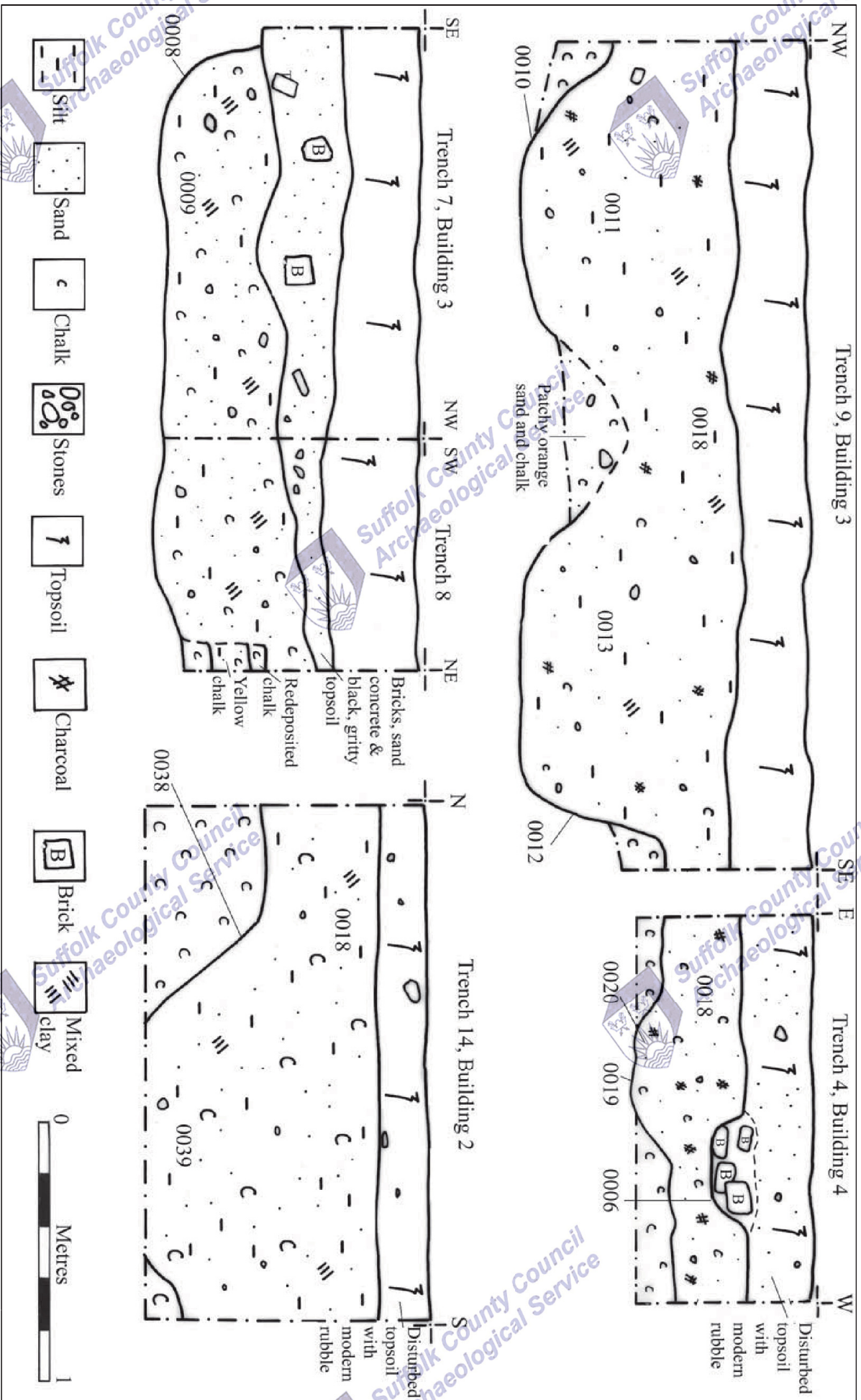


Figure 7. Feature sections at 1:20 scale

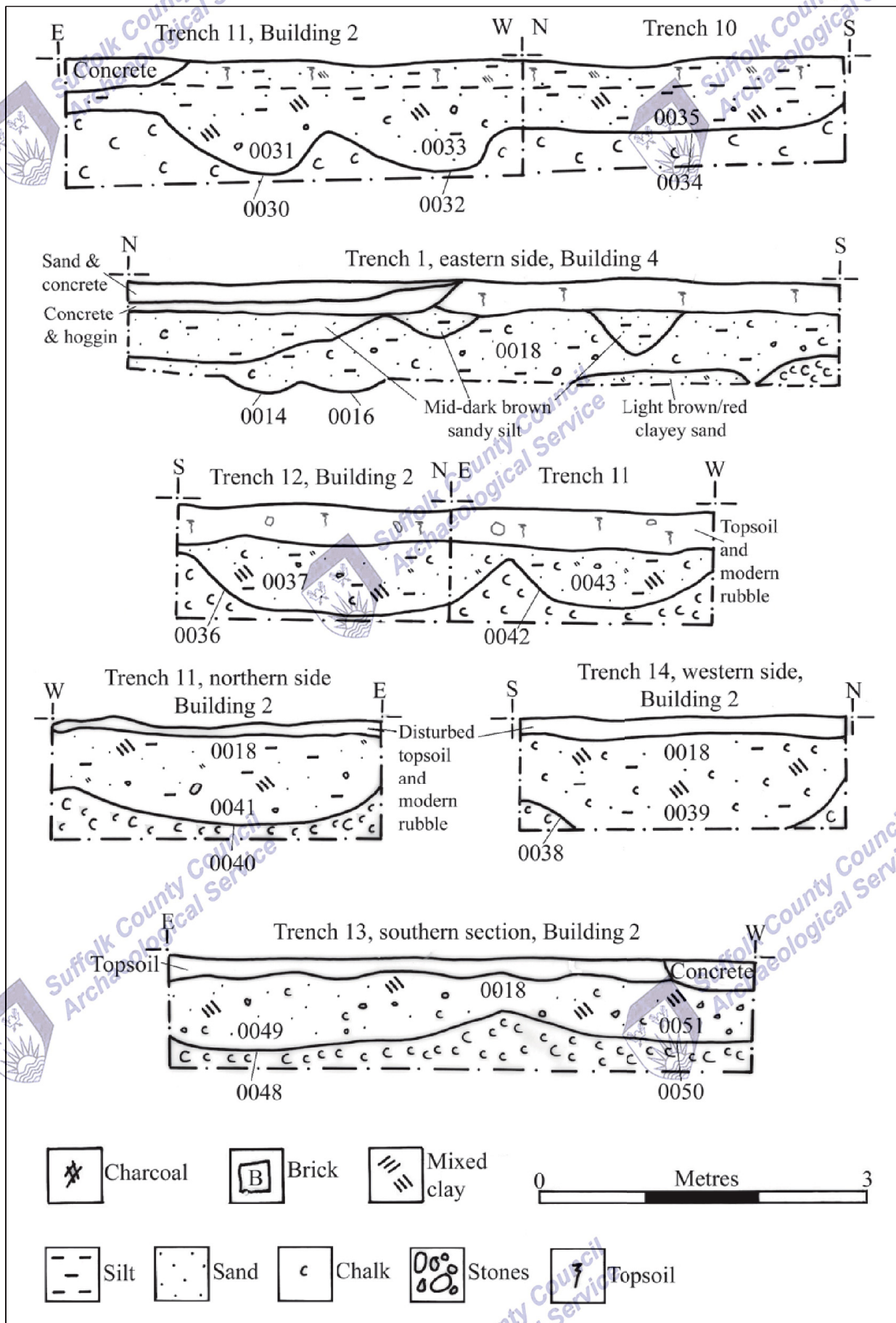


Figure 8. Feature sections at 1:50 scale

4. Finds

Richenda Goffin.

Introduction

Finds were collected from nine contexts, as shown in the table below.

OP	Pottery		CBM		Animal bone		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g		
0001	1	10						19th C
0002	2	50			4	162	1 glass bottle, (96g)	19th C+
0003					1	68		Undated
0005	1	20			4	66		L17th-18th
0006	1	20	1	781				15th-16th C or earlier
0007	1	101						19th C
0009	2	15	11	605	1	31	1 iron frag (26g)	19th C
0011	1	6	1	9				L17th-18th C
0013	2	25	1	244	1	12	1 stone (20g), 1 iron (2g)	16th-18th C
Total	10	227	14	1639	11	339		

Table 1. Finds quantities

Pottery

A total of ten fragments of pottery was recovered from the monitoring (0.227kg). The assemblage is post-medieval in date.

A fragment of Staffordshire combed slipware dish (L17th-18th century) and an abraded Glazed red earthenware sherd (16th-18th C) were collected as unstratified sherds in Trench 1. The base of an English stoneware mug dating to the Late 17th-18th century was present in 0005, a general number allocated to unstratified finds from Trench 4. Part of a Transfer Printed ware dish was recovered from 0007 (Trench 5 topsoil) dating to the nineteenth century. An abraded sherd of 19th century Ironstone china and another fragment of Glazed red earthenware was present in pit fill 009 (Trench 7/8 Building Plot 3). A fragment of Staffordshire combed slipware (L17th-18th C) was found in pit fill 0011 (Trench 9). Two fragments of pottery dating to the 16th-18th C were identified in pit fill 0013 of the same trench.

Ceramic building material

Fourteen fragments of ceramic building material were collected (1.639kg). These consisted for the most part of fragments of post-medieval bricks, which were present in pit fill 0009. Half of a particularly small brick was found in 0006, the base of a possible wall foundation (Trench 4). It is made from a buff fabric with maroon streaks and grog lumps. It may be an early brick dating to the 13th-15th century, but it is also possible that it may be a later brick type which is found on sites in Norwich as early as the first half of the sixteenth century (Drury, 1993, 165). The brick has the remains of mortar on one of its surfaces, but none on the broken edge.

Metalwork

The remains of two iron nails were collected from pit fills 0009 and 0013.

Miscellaneous

A complete glass lemonade bottle dating to the 19th century was recovered as an unstratified find from Trench 1 (Building Plot 4). The moulding on the side of the bottle reads 'THE CAMBRIDGE LEMONADE...CHIVERS & SONS LTD, HISTON CAMBRIDGE'.

A very small fragment of fine-grained clunch-type stone was present in pit fill 0013 (0.020kg).

Animal bone

The majority of the animal bone fragments were unstratified, but several examples of butchered bones were identified amongst this material. A large and unworn bovine molar was recovered from pit fill 0009.

Discussion

No prehistoric or Roman finds were recovered from the monitoring. The majority of the pottery dates to the 18th century or later, but some earlier post-medieval fabrics were also identified, together with some of the ceramic building material.

5. Discussion

The earliest evidence for activity on the site is probably provided by layer 0018 that was most evident towards the eastern end of the site where it was cut by several of the pits. It's homogenous appearance leads to an interpretation as a plough soil which could be medieval or early post-medieval in date. The earliest structure was possible wall 0006, which is tentatively dated to the early 17th century but could be earlier. It may appear on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey of 1882 that has since been demolished.

The many pits that were found across the development are good evidence for continuous occupation of the area from the 17th to the 19th century. It is in the nature of pits that establishing their purpose can be difficult because the fill may be unrelated to the original function; this would seem to be the case here. A number were probably dug as cess pits and attached to buildings along the street frontage, and later filled with rubbish, (the original contents would often have been spread over fields as manure) others may have been specifically dug for rubbish. Butchered bone and broken pottery identified in the finds are to be expected from domestic rubbish. The proximity of chalk in an area with clunch buildings (a piece of which was found in context 0013) offers a further possibility. The features only penetrated to any great depth into the chalk in Plots 2 and 3 revealing a difference between the east and west end of the site. Despite evidence on the 1882 1st edition Ordnance Survey map for wells in the area, none were identified during the monitoring.

6. Conclusion

No evidence, either in the form of features or finds, was found of Roman or prehistoric activity, which is perhaps surprising given the density of such sites within the vicinity. As always with projects of this nature, it is difficult to draw detailed conclusions on the nature of past activity, because of the limited visibility in the trenches and their disjointed pattern. Generally, the monitoring has revealed features suggestive of light industry and domestic occupation over a site formally given over to arable farming.

Rob Brooks
June 2008

References

Drury, P.J., 1993, 'Ceramic Building Materials' in Margeson, S., *Norwich Households: the medieval and post-medieval finds from Norwich Survey Excavations 1971-1978*, EAA Report No 58



Appendix 1:

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring of Development

41 BEECHES ROAD, WEST ROW, MILDENHALL

Although this document is fundamental to the work of the specialist archaeological contractor the developer should be aware that certain of its requirements are likely to impinge upon the working practices of a general building contractor and may have financial implications, for example see paragraphs 2.3 & 4.3. The commissioning body should also be aware that it may have Health & Safety responsibilities, see paragraph 1.5.

1. Background

1.1 Planning permission to develop on this site has been granted conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (application F/2007/0460/OUT). Assessment of the available archaeological evidence indicates that the area affected by development can be adequately recorded by archaeological monitoring of development as it occurs, coupled with provision for an archaeological record of any archaeology that is observed.

1.2 The application is for four dwellings with access and hard standing within the post medieval settlement core and close to known Roman finds (MNL 193; 160m to south-west) and prehistoric occupation (MNL 312: 110m to the south). The development area has demonstrated archaeological potential.

1.3 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.

1.4 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in "Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England" Occasional Papers 14, East Anglian Archaeology, 2003.

- 1.5 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.

2. **Brief for Archaeological Monitoring**

- 2.1 To provide a record of archaeological deposits which are damaged or removed by any development [including services and landscaping] permitted by the current planning consent.
- 2.2 The main academic objective will centre upon the potential of this development to produce evidence for earlier occupation of the site.
- 2.3 The significant archaeologically damaging activities in this proposal are likely to be the site preparation works involving topsoil stripping (e.g. the construction of access roads, hard standing construction, and landscaping) and the excavation of building footing or ground-beam trenches.

If site preparation works involve topsoil stripping the stripping process and the upcast soil are to be observed by an archaeologist whilst they are excavated by the building contractor.

In the case of footing trenches the excavation and the upcast soil, are to be observed by an archaeologist after they have been excavated by the building contractor. Adequate time is to be allowed for the recording of archaeological deposits during excavation, and of soil sections following excavation (see 4.3).

3. **Arrangements for Monitoring**

- 3.1 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the archaeological contractor) who must be approved by the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS) - see 1.3 above.
- 3.2 The developer or his archaeologist will give the Conservation Team of SCCAS 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. The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based.
- 3.3 Allowance must be made to cover archaeological costs incurred in monitoring the development works by the contract archaeologist. The size of the contingency should be estimated by the approved archaeological contractor, based upon the outline works in paragraph 2.3 of the Brief and Specification and the building contractor's programme of works and time-table.
- 3.4 If unexpected remains are encountered the Conservation Team of SCCAS must be informed immediately. Amendments to this specification may be made to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

4. Specification

4.1 The developer shall afford access at all reasonable times to both the County Council Conservation Team archaeologist and the contracted 'observing archaeologist' to allow archaeological observation of building and engineering operations which disturb the ground.

4.2 Opportunity must be given to the 'observing archaeologist' to hand excavate any discrete archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations, retrieve finds and make measured records as necessary.

4.3 In the case of topsoil stripping for site preparation, access roads, hard standings and landscaping unimpeded access to the stripped area at the rate of one hour per 30 square metres must be allowed for archaeological recording at the interface between topsoil and clean sub-soil surface before the area is further deepened, traversed by machinery or sub-base deposited.

In the case of footing trenches unimpeded access at the rate of one and a half hours per 10 metres of trench must be allowed for archaeological recording before concreting or building begin. Where it is necessary to see archaeological detail one of the soil faces is to be trowelled clean.

4.4 All archaeological features exposed must be planned at a minimum scale of 1:50 on a plan showing the proposed layout of the development.

4.5 All contexts must be numbered and finds recorded by context. The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monuments Record.

4.6 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from J Heathcote, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P L and Wiltshire, P E J, 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.

4.7 Developers should be aware of the possibility of human burials being found. If this eventuality occurs they must comply with the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857; and the archaeologist should be informed by 'Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England' (English Heritage & the Church of England 2005) which includes sensible baseline standards which are likely to apply whatever the location, age or denomination of a burial.

5. Report Requirements

5.1 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principles of *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*, particularly Appendix 3. This must be deposited with the County Sites and Monuments Record within 3 months of the completion of work. It will then become publicly accessible.

5.2 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*. The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County SMR if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.

5.3 A report on the fieldwork and archive, consistent with the principles of *MAP2*, particularly Appendix 4, must be provided. The report must summarise the methodology employed, the stratigraphic sequence, and give a period by period description of the contexts recorded, and an inventory of finds. The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its interpretation. The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).

5.4 A summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology*, must be prepared and included in the project report.

5.5 County Sites and Monuments Record sheets must be completed, as per the county SMR manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.

5.6 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.



5.7 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: Robert Carr

Date: 13 August 2007

Reference: /41 Beeches Road, West Row

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.

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

Shire Hall Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR 01284 352443



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Appendix 2: MNL 593 Context List

Context	Feature	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Width in m	Length in m	Depth in m	Finds	Over	Under
0001				Unstratified finds	Unstratified finds	0	0	0	0	Y	
0002		0002	Trench 1	Trench 1	Trench number 1. This was the eastern trench in Building Plot 4 and was numbered in order to locate possible pits [0014] and [0016] and for finds distributions. Much of the top of this trench had modern layers of material running through the top 0.35M. However, the southern half of the trench had intact topsoil coming down to a very light grey/brown sandy silt with frequent chalk flecks (0018), which the finds under this number came from. This was interpreted as a ploughsoil. Mid-dark brown sandy silt of a similar nature also cut down into parts of this, as recorded in section. Finally these layers came down on to chalk at a depth of 0.9M at which point [0014] and [0016] became visible. Width measured WNW-ESE, length NNE-SSW.	0.6	6.6	0.9	Y		
0003		0003	Trench 2	Trench 2	Trench number 2. This was the southern trench in Building Plot 4 and was numbered for finds distributions. This trench was far less disturbed than Trench 1 and had topsoil to a depth of 0.22M before hitting ploughsoil layer (0018). At between 0.74 and 0.8M down clean and undulating chalk natural appeared. Width measured NNE-SSW, length ESE-WNW. Excavated to a maximum 1M depth, but sometimes to less. Two soil profiles were drawn of this trench to illustrate the varying depths of excavation and layers.	0.6	9.4	1	Y		
0004		0004	Trench 3	Trench 3	Trench number 3. This was the western trench in Building Plot 4 and was numbered for finds distributions. It had the same layers and depths as trench 2, of topsoil, layer (0018) and then chalk, but no features. Width measured WNW-ESE, length SSW-NNE.	0.6	6.6	0.8			
0005		0005	Trench 4	Trench 4	Trench number 4. This was the northern trench in Building Plot 4 and was numbered for finds distributions and to locate possible pit [0019]. Some of the modern disturbance seen in Trench 1 0002 came through into this trench, as recorded in section, and created a mixed topsoil/disturbed layer. There was also a dump of CBM, which may have been the remnants of a wall which cut down into layer (0018). Below this chalk was reached at approximately 0.62M, at which point [0019] became visible. Width measured SSW-NNE, length ESE-WNW.	0.6	9.4	0.75	Y		
0006		0006	0005	Wall	Structure	0.4	0	0.14	Y	0018	
0007		0007	Trench 5	Trench 5	Base of possible wall foundation/brick dump in Trench 4 0005. This may very possibly have been a fairly modern pit with material that was still somewhat mortared together dumped in it. A brick was kept for dating and number as 0006. Width measured ESE-WNW.	0.6	6.4	0.8	Y		
0008		0008	0022 0023	Pit	Cut	0.75	1.4	0.4			
0009		0008	0022 0023	Pit	Fill	0	0	0	Y		
0010		0010	0024	Pit	Cut	0.2	1	0.42			0018



Context	Feature	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Width in m	Length in m	Depth in m	Find	Over	Under	
0011	0010	0024	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit [0010] in trench 9 0024. Mid brown silty-clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks, stones and chalk nodules, which was the same as layer (0018) above. Identical to (0013) of [0012].	0.2	1	0.42	Y		0018	
0012	0012	0024	Pit	Cut	Pit cut, located south east of pit [0010] in trench 9 0024. Near vertical sides, changing abruptly to a flat/slightly concave base, cut into chalk and sand natural. Only visible when chalk was cut into at the base of the trench. 0.2M segment excavated for finds. Dimensions represent the visible extent of the feature. Width measured SW-NE, length NW-SE. Relationship with [0010] was not visible.	0.6	2	0.56			0018	
0013	0012	0024	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit [0012]. Mid brown silty-clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks, stones and chalk nodules. Identical to fill (0011) of [0010]. Appears to be the same as layer (0018), which runs above it.			0.56	Y		0018	
0014	0014	0002	Pit	Cut	Small extent of possible pit cut in trench 1 0002 in building plot 4. Only just visible in plan and section at the base of the trench. Had a gently rounded base. Just north of possible pit [0016], but a relationship was not visible. Initially this pit was thought to perhaps be a natural undulation in the chalk, but due to the existence of many similar features on the site it was numbered. Width measured NNE-SSW.	0.65	0	0.15			0018	
0015	0014	0002	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit [0014]. Very light grey/brown sandy silt with frequent chalk flecks. Essentially the same as, and under, layer (0018), hence no relationship being visible with [0016].	0.65	0	0.15			0018	
0016	0016	0002	Pit	Cut	Small extent of possible pit cut in trench 1 0002 in building plot 4. Only just visible in plan and section at the base of the trench. Had a gently rounded base. Just south of possible pit [0014], but a relationship was not visible. Initially this pit was thought to perhaps be a natural undulation in the chalk, but due to the existence of many similar features on the site it was numbered. Width measured NNE-SSW.	0.7	0	0.14			0018	
0017	0016	0002	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit [0016]. Very light grey/brown sandy silt with frequent chalk flecks. Essentially the same as, and under, layer (0018), hence no relationship being visible with [0014].	0.7	0	0.14				
0018			Layer		Layer of ploughsoil-type material running across the whole of the site except towards the west of the site, where profiles of building plot 2 and pits [0030] and [0032] reveal it had largely ended. It was essentially a light-mid grey/brown silty sand, occasionally with a slightly clayey texture and regular chalk flecks. There were also occasional charcoal flecks and stones. Finds under trench numbers came from this layer. All of the archaeological features found on the site were filled with what appeared to be the same material, but often with a more concentrated finds density, suggesting that these pits were open, had archaeological material put into them and then this layer was used to backfill where it had just been dug from. Interpretation - the finds suggest that the last sequence of human interference with this layer was possibly largely contemporary with the pits that were then dug into it, though this is not entirely certain.	0	0	0				
0019	0019	0005	Pit	Cut	Possible pit cut in trench 4 0005. Only visible in the south section of the trench as a shallow depression into the chalk and recorded in the section drawing. Filled with what appeared to be the same material as layer (0018), hence it not being visible until it was machined away. Width measured ENE-WSW.	0.58	0	0.14				
0020	0019	0005	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit [0019]. Mid brown silty-sand with frequent charcoal and chalk flecks.	0.58	0	0.14				
0021	0021	0021	Trench 6		Trench 6 in building plot 3. Ran SW-NE. This trench contained no features and came down through a topsoil layer which was up to 0.25M deep, through layer (0018), down to chalk natural at around 0.8M deep, as recorded in section. Width measured NW-SE, length SE-NW.	0.6	8.6	0.9				
0022	0022	0022	Trench 7		Trench 7 in building plot 3. Ran NW-SE. This trench contained pit [0008] and some of layer (0018), but the majority of its outer length was disturbed by a relatively modern pond, presumably associated with the recent house that had been on the plot. Towards the north east end of this trench and running over [0008] there was also a lot of modern material, such as CBM, concrete and other aggregate that had then had topsoil replaced over it, as can be seen in section. Width measured SW-NE, length SE-NW. Depth varied from 0.8M in the trench to 1.05M in pit [0008]. Topsoil in this trench was up to 0.4M deep, with the modern material being up to 0.3M deep, before hitting the top of layer (0018)/pit [0008].	0.6	9	1.05				



Context	Feature	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Width in m	Length in m	Depth in m	Finds	Over	Under
0023		0023	Trench 8		Trench number 8, in building plot 3. Aligned SW-NE and contained part of pit [0008] and layer (0018). As with trench 7 0022, this trench had a quantity of modern disturbance in the corner of [0008], which is visible in section. Depth varied from 1.05M in pit [0008] to about 0.9M in the main part of the trench. Width measured NW-SE, length SW-NE. Topsoil ran to a depth of up to 0.35M, with the modern layer being up to 0.08M deep, before hitting the top of layer (0018)/pit [0008].	0.6	8.6	1.05			
0024		0024	Trench 9		Trench 9, in building plot 3. NW-SE aligned and contained pits [0010] and [0012], as well as layer (0018). Topsoil came down to 0.34M deep, then layer (0018) ran down imperceptibly into the top of the two pit cuts to a depth of 1.14M.	0.6	5.25	1.14			
0025		0025	Trench 10		Trench 10, in building plot 2, running SSW-NNE. Contained possible pit [0034], though this was possibly some of layer (0018) over undulating chalk. Topsoil ran to a depth of approximately 0.25M, where it met layer (0018), though this interface was hard to distinguish. This layer then ran into the base of [0034]/the top of the chalk natural, at a depth of 0.6M, as recorded in section. A soil profile was also drawn of the other (north west) side of the trench and revealed a modern lens of material (concrete, CBM rubble, etc) over 0.29M of topsoil, running straight onto chalk, suggesting that [0034] may well be a feature.	0.6	6.6	1			
0026		0026	Trench 11		Trench 11, in building plot 2. WNW-ESE aligned. Contained possible pits [0030], [0032], [0040] and [0042] and layer (0018). Both ends of this trench were truncated by modern activity, as recorded in section by CBM, concrete and mixed topsoil and ploughsoil deposits. Topsoil, where apparently undisturbed went down to approximately 0.25M before hitting the top of layer (0018)/the top of the pit features, running down to 1.05M before hitting chalk, machined out to a depth of 1.2M in places.	0.6	9.2	1.2			
0027		0027	Trench 12		Trench 12, in building plot 2 and SSW-NNE aligned. Contained possible pits [0036], [0044] and [0046] and layer (0018). A disturbed 0.25M thick layer of topsoil, ploughsoil and modern material (CBM, concrete lumps, etc) lies above ploughsoil (0018), which comes down to the various pits before chalk natural at 1.1M.	0.6	6.6	1.1			
0028		0028	Trench 13		Trench 13, in building plot 2. WNW-ESE aligned. Contains possible pits [0048] and [0050]. A disturbed 0.25M deep topsoil layer comes down on to layer (0018)/the top of the pits, before hitting chalk natural at anywhere between 0.5M to 0.9M deep. The north west corner of the trench had a hard-standing area of concrete truncating it to a depth of 0.25M.	0.6	9.2	1			
0029		0029	Trench 14		Trench 14, running SSW-NNE through the middle of building plot 2. Contained pit [0038] and layer (0018). A disturbed layer of topsoil and modern material (CBM, concrete, etc) ran to a depth of approximately 0.2M before hitting layer (0018) and the fill of [0038]. (0018)/the fill of [0038] ran to a depth of at least 1.1M. Chalk natural started at 0.6 to 0.8M deep.	0.6	5.4	1.1			
0030	0030	0026	Pit	Cut	Pit near the north west corner of trench 11 0026, but just south east of pit [0032]. Only visible in section as was truncated by the machine excavation of the site. Approximately 45° sloping, though slightly curved sides, curving gently to a rounded base. Width measured WNW-ESE. The depth measurement represents where the cut was visible, but potentially not its full extent.	1.45	0	0.6			0018
0031	0030	0026	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit [0030]. Appears the same as layer (0018). Light-mid grey/brown silty-sand with occasional charcoal flecks, stones and chalk nodules.	1.45	0	0.6			0018
0032	0032	0026	Pit	Cut	Pit cut visible in section of trench 11 0026. North west of pit [0030]. Variably-sloping sides with a fairly flat base. Relationship with [0030] is unclear. Interpretation - roughly 18th century pit used for household refuse. Width measured WNW-ESE. The depth measurement represents where the cut was visible, but potentially not its full extent.	1.4	0	0.45			0018
0033	0032	0026	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit [0032]. Appears the same as layer (0018). Light-mid grey/brown silty-sand with occasional charcoal flecks, stones and chalk nodules.	1.4	0	0.45			0018

Context	Feature	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Width in m	Length in m	Depth in m	Findings	Over	Under
0034	0034	0025	Pit	Cut	Possible pit cut in trench 11 0025. Possibly just an undulation of the chalk levels. If it is a pit it had been truncated by, or has truncated, pit [0032]. Has an almost flat, slightly concave base and a gently curving southern side. Visible width measured N-S. The depth measurement represents where the cut was visible, but potentially not its full extent.	2.8	0	0.45			0018
0035	0034	0025	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit [0034]. The same, or at least indistinguishable from layer (0018). Mid brown silty-clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks, stones and chalk nodules.	2.8	0	0.45			0018
0036	0036	0026	Pit	Cut	Possible pit cut, mainly located in trench 11 0026, but partly also in trench 12 0027. Two interpretations of its possible plan shape have been marked on the plan of the site. However, this particular area obviously had a number of inter-cutting features as well as truncation from what appears to have been the original building plot. Width measured SSW-NNE. The depth measurement represents where the cut was visible, but potentially not its full extent.	2.35	0	0.65			0018
0037	0036	0026	Pit	Fill	Fill of possible pit [0036]. The same, or at least indistinguishable from layer (0018). Mid brown silty-clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks, stones and chalk nodules.	2.35	0	0.65			0018
0038	0038	0029	Pit	Cut	Large pit cut in trench 14 0029, in building plot 2. Not excavated, but appears to be of a similar scale and shape to the rest of the pits on site. From what was visible in the trench it was round in plan. The north side of the cut ran down at approximately 45° with slightly concave edges, whilst the south side was more uneven, being only visible in the chalk natural that began at a greater depth than on the north side. Width measured SSW-NNE.	1.45	0	0			0018
0039	0038	0029	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit [0038]. The same, or at least indistinguishable from layer (0018). Mid brown silty-clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks, stones and chalk nodules.	0	0	0			0018
0040	0040	0026	Pit	Cut	Possible pit cut towards WNW corner of trench 11 0026. May simply be a chalk undulation filled up with ploughsoil layer (0018), as there were a number of undulations in this area. Layer (0018) and the fill of this pit were indistinguishable, so its cut was hard to see, but appears in section to have had a slightly concave, rounded base. Width measured WNW-ESE.	1.75	0	0			0018
0041	0040	0026	Pit	Fill	Fill of possible pit [0040]. The same, or at least indistinguishable from layer (0018). Mid brown silty-clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks, stones and chalk nodules.	1.75	0	0			0018
0042	0042	0026	Pit	Cut	Pit cut visible in section of south side of trench 11 0026. Filled with apparently the same material as layer (0018), which made its relationship with other pits in the area impossible to establish as they were also filled with a similar context. The profile had approximately 45° sloping, concave sides, (where visible), curving abruptly on the ESE side and gently on the WNW side to a gently rounded, concave base. Width measured ESE-WNW. The depth measurement represents where the cut was visible, but potentially not its full extent.	1.35	0	0.4			0018
0043	0042	0026	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit [0042]. The same, or at least indistinguishable from layer (0018). Mid brown silty-clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks, stones and chalk nodules.	1.35	0	0.4			0018
0044	0044	0027	Pit	Cut	Possible pit cut in trench 12 0027, of building plot 2. Pit only partly visible as this area was truncated by modern and the pit is filled with similar material to layer (0018). Base is flat, curving gently to shallow sloping sides. Width measured N-S. Interpretation - this may be a separate pit to [0046], or it may be the same, with an uneven cut on the SSE end as recorded in section. If the function of the pits in this area was for refuse it seems unlikely that these would be separate features as presumably they would be relatively contemporary.	4.35	0	0			0018
0045	0044	0027	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit [0044]. The same, or at least indistinguishable from layer (0018). Mid brown silty-clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks, stones and chalk nodules.	0	0	0			0018
0046	0046	0027	Pit	Cut	Possible pit cut in trench 12 0027, though may be the same as pit [0044]. See [0044] for the discussion of this. Width measured N-S. Flat base, with approximately 25° sloping sides curving gently from it.	4.95	0	0.75			0018
0047	0046	0027	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit [0046]. The same, or at least indistinguishable from layer (0018). Mid brown silty-clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks, stones and chalk nodules.	4.95	0	0.75			0018

Context	Feature	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Width in m	Length in m	Depth in m	Find	Over	Under
0048	0048	0028	Pit	Cut	Possible pit cut seen in the south section of trench 13 0028, of building plot 2. May simply be an undulation of the chalk natural filled with ploughsoil layer (0018). However, at its WNW end it did seem to rise to a more certain cut, with a rounded concave base and gently sloping sides. Width measured ESE-WNW. Visible depth measured. Relationship with [0050] is uncertain.	3.05	0	0.4			0018
0049	0048	0028	Pit	Fill	Fill of possible pit [0048]. The same, or at least indistinguishable from layer (0018). Mid brown silty-clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks, stones and chalk nodules.	3.05	0	0.4			0018
0050	0050	0028	Pit	Cut	Possible pit cut on the south side of section of trench 13 0028, in building plot 2. May simply be an undulation of the chalk natural filled with ploughsoil layer (0018). Relationship with [0048] is uncertain. West end of feature was not seen. Gently rounded, concave base. Visible width measured WNW-ESE. Visible depth in section measured though this may not represent full depth of original feature.	2.3	0	0.25			0018
0051	0050	0028	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit [0050]. The same, or at least indistinguishable from, layer (0018). Mid brown silty-clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks, stones and chalk nodules.	2.3	0	0.25			0018
0052		0052	Trench 15		Three-part trench, in building plot 3, coming off trenches 6 0021 and 7 0022. Contained pit [0053].	0	0	0			
0053	0053	0052	Pit	Cut	Pit cut seen in plan in trench 15 0052. Width measured SE-NW, length NW-SE.	1.3	1.9	0			0018
0054	0053	0052	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit [0053]. Very similar to (0018). Mid grey/brown silty sand with regular chalk lumps.	1.3	1.9	0			0018

