

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

Land to the rear of 132 High Street, Lakenheath LKH 236

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION, 2004
(Planning app. no. F/2004/0407/OUT)

John Craven
Field Team
Suffolk C.C. Archaeological Service

© October 2004

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

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Contents

List of Figures
List of Tables
List of Contributors
Acknowledgements
Summary
SMR information

Introduction
Methodology
Results
Finds and environmental evidence
Discussion
Recommendations

Appendix 1: Brief and Specification
Appendix 2: Context list
Appendix 3: Pottery

List of Figures

1. Site location plan
2. Hodskinsons map of 1783.
3. Trench 1 plan and sections
4. Trench 3 plan and sections
5. Trench 2 plan and sections
6. Trench 4 plan and sections
7. Site on 1880 OS map

List of Tables

1. Finds quantities
2. Pottery quantities by fabric

List of Contributors

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

John Craven Assistant Project Officer
Sue Anderson Post-Roman Finds specialist (CFA Archaeology Ltd)
Gemma Adams Post-excavation assistant

Acknowledgements

This project was commissioned by Peter Webster and funded by Jaxmead Properties. It was monitored by R.D.Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team).

The excavation was carried out by archaeological staff (Jo Caruth, James Haygreen, Jonathan Van Jennians, James Rolfe and Andrew Tester) from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

The project was directed by John Craven, and managed by John Newman, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

Finds processing and production of trench plans and sections was carried out by Gemma Adams and the specialist finds report by Sue Anderson.

Summary

An evaluation was carried out in advance of residential development on land to the rear of 132 High Street, Lakenheath. The evaluation consisted of four trenches with a total length of 120m, or 5.3% of the total area of 0.36ha.

The trenches showed a high level of preservation of the natural subsoil beneath a deep garden topsoil. Two trenches located a series of nine ditches, predominantly aligned north-south, containing pottery dating to the 12-13th century. These ditches were roughly parallel to each other and were on a similar alignment to the High Street and the surrounding modern property boundaries, indicating that the current land division in the area is a continuation of the medieval layout.

Layers sealing these ditches contained material of a later medieval/post-medieval date indicating that these ditches had fallen out of use during the medieval period and, with the deep build up of topsoil, indicates that the site has probably been used as domestic gardens since then.

The trenches clearly showed that a large house, shown on the 1783 Hodskinsons map, was not present in the development area.

SMR information

Planning application no. F/2004/0407/OUT
Date of fieldwork: 6-7th October 2004
Grid Reference: TL 7157 8238
Oasis Reference: suffolkc1-4205
Funding body: Jaxmead Properties

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was carried out in advance of housing development on land to the rear of 132 High Street, Lakenheath, Suffolk. The work was commissioned by Peter Webster for Jaxmead Properties and was carried out to a Brief and Specification issued by R.D.Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team – Appendix 1) to fulfil a planning condition on application F/2004/0407/OUT. This was in order to assess the archaeological potential of the development area, and to establish any possible archaeological implications for the sites development. The work was funded by the developer, Jaxmead Properties.

The village of Lakenheath lies on the south-eastern edge of the fens, bounded to the north and west by the 'Cut-Off Channel', a drainage channel constructed in the 1960's, which marks the current fen-edge and roughly follows the line of the natural fen-edge. The site lies on the western edge of Lakenheath, to the rear of properties fronting on to the High Street and immediately east of the Cut-Off channel, at TL 7157 8238 and at between c.4m OD and 6m OD (Fig. 1).

The site covers an area of c.0.36ha and was situated on a very slight west facing slope. The land was derelict waste ground with several mature trees in its centre, and in the past had been used as domestic gardens. This had led to the build-up of a garden topsoil of considerable depth, up to 0.8m thick, which overlay the natural subsoil of mixed sands and gravel.

The principal aim of the evaluation was to establish whether a large building, marked on the 18th century Hodskinsons map (Fig. 2), and recorded in the Suffolk SMR as LKH 161, was present within the development area. The precise location of this building is unknown and there was potential for archaeological trenching to locate the main dwelling, ancillary buildings or associated deposits. In addition the sites location next to the Cut-Off channel meant that waterlogged and peat deposits, with which prehistoric material has been associated elsewhere along the fen edge, might be located.

Methodology

The proposed plan of three 1.6m wide trenches, totalling 112m in length, were placed to cover the actual proposed building plots. Modifications to the trenching plan were made when necessary to avoid existing trees and lean-to structures, this mainly affected trench 3. An additional trench, trench 4, was placed after the planned trenching was complete at the request of R.D.Carr.

The trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator with a 1.6m ditching bucket, under the supervision of an archaeologist. The four trenches excavated totalled 120m in length, 8m more than specified in the brief due to the extra trench. With the trenches being 1.6m wide this totalled 192sqm, amounting to 5.3% of the total area. During the evaluation the developer also excavated 5 test pits which were monitored and recorded.

The trenches were excavated to a depth varying from 0.3-1.2m. This generally consisted of the removal of 0.1-0.2m of modern topsoil, then a thick layer of former topsoil, 0.3-0.5m. Beneath these modern deposits there was generally a layer of mixed sand/silt overlying the natural subsoil and this was also removed until the top of the natural subsoil and archaeological features was exposed. After excavation the spoil was examined for unstratified finds.

Identified features were cleaned and excavated by hand; generally 100% of the visible area of pits, postholes and ditches. A single context continuous numbering system was used and trench plans were drawn at a scale of 1:100, feature sections and soil profiles at 1:20. Digital photographs (included in the digital archive) were taken of all stages of the evaluation.

Site levels were recorded with a dumpy level, relative to a datum point on the pavement in front of the driveway of 132 High Street. The precise height of this datum point is unknown but, for the purpose of calculating site levels, has been given an approximate figure of 7.5m OD.

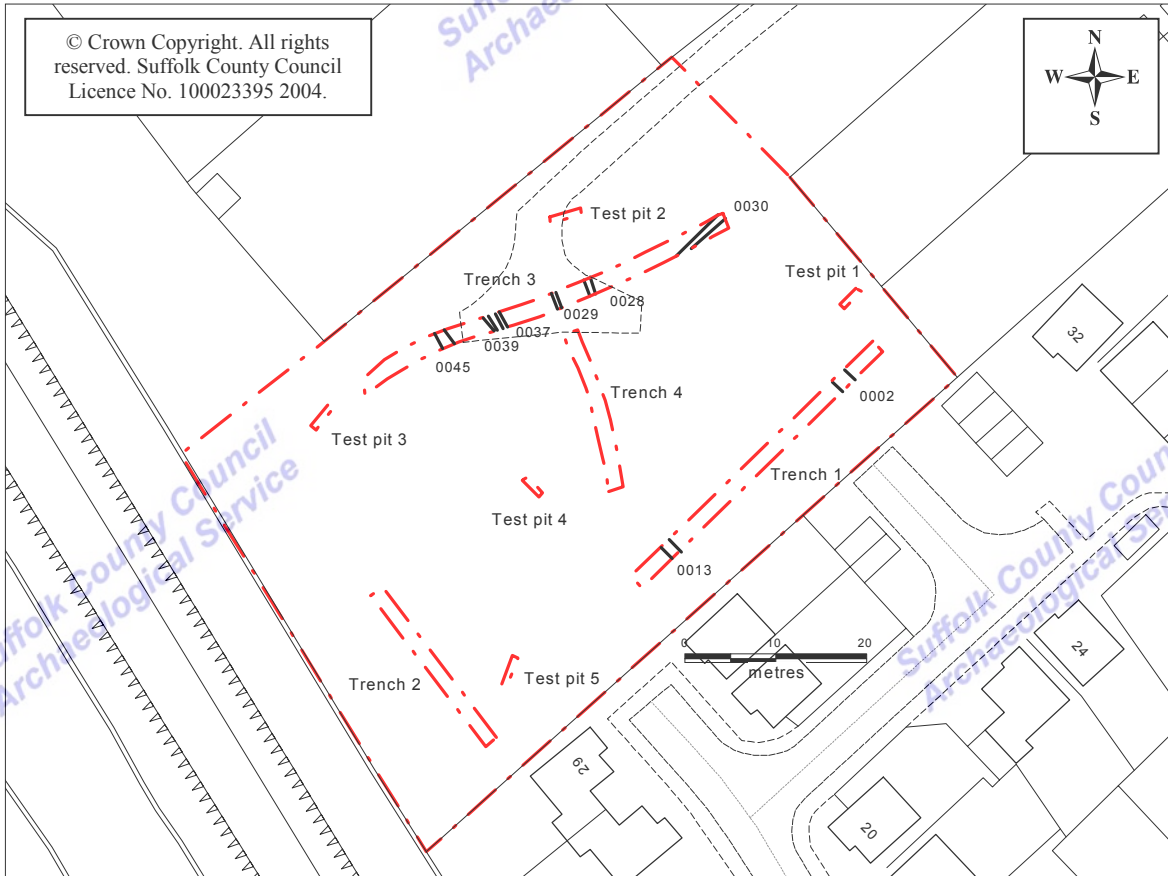
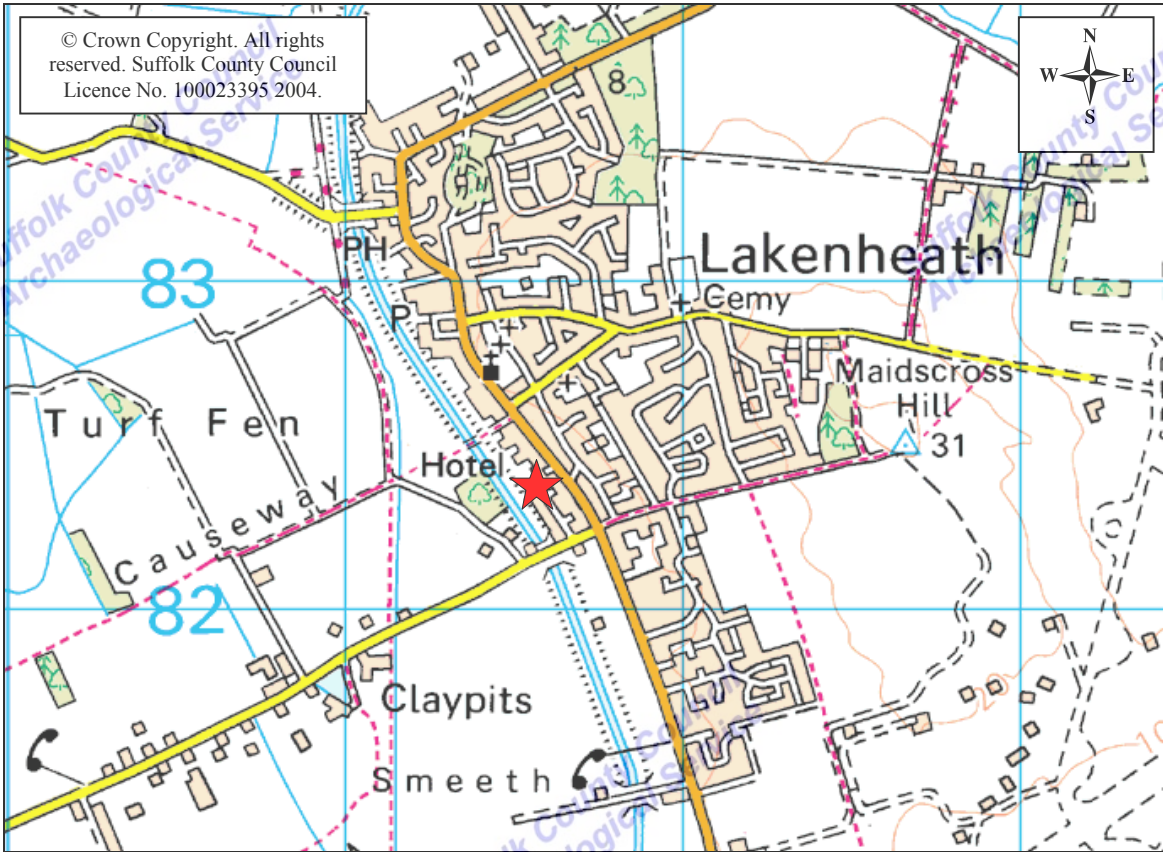


Figure 1. Site location plan

Site data has been input onto an MS Access database and recorded using the County Sites and Monuments Record code LKH 236, and inked copies of section drawings and plans have been made. Bulk finds were washed, marked and quantified, and the resultant data was also entered onto a database.

An OASIS form has been completed for the project (reference no. suffolk1-4205).

The site archive is kept in the small and main stores of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service at Bury St Edmunds under SMR No. LKH 236.



Figure 2. Hodkinson's map of 1783

Results

The trenches showed a similar natural subsoil across the entire site, an undulating surface of grey, yellow and orange waterlain sands with heavy iron panning deposits and occasional scattered deposits of fine gravel. To the west, in trench 2, the pale grey sand was mixed with bands of dark brown/black sand with some organic material, possibly the infill of a natural hollow within the subsoil. In the western part of trench 3 the subsoil also appeared to descend into a natural hollow, infilled with deposits of fine brown sand.

The site was covered in a thick garden topsoil to a depth of up to 0.8m. This generally lay above a layer, 0.1-0.3m thick, of mixed sands which lay above the natural subsoil and sealed the archaeological features (0012, 0015).

A selection of unstratified finds (0022, 0026 and 0047), principally pottery sherds, were recovered during excavation from the trench spoilheaps.

A range of features, mainly a series of NW-SE aligned ditches, were identified and appear to belong to a single phase of medieval activity, although several features were undated.

Trench 1

(Fig. 3)

Trench 1 was 37m in length and aligned NE-SW. Two features were identified, NW-SE aligned ditches 0002 and 0013, sealed beneath layers of sand, 0012 and 0015. 0002 was a substantial feature, approximately 1.2m wide and 0.4m deep, and appeared to cut two layers of sand, 0010 and 0011. Two sections were recorded, 0017 and 0018, which showed a series of fills; 0003 was the main initial backfill and was followed by a sequence of gradual silting, 0004-0009. Four sherds of 12th century pottery were recovered from the main basal fill, 0003. Layer 0012, which covered the ditch and layers 0010 and 0011, contained a single fragment of 13th-15th century CBM and, immediately to the east of the ditch unstratified material of 13-15th century date, 0047, was recovered from where 0012 was apparently cut by later disturbance.

Ditch 0013 was a less distinct feature, measuring 1.2m wide and only 0.1m deep in section 0019. Its fill, 0013, a dark grey sand, contained a single sherd of 11-12th century pottery. The layer above, 0015, is undated.

A soil profile, 0016 was recorded in the centre of the trench.

Trench 2

(Fig. 5)

Trench 2 was 21m in length and aligned NW-SE. To the north it was very shallow, with 0.3m of topsoil directly overlying the natural subsoil (section 0023). This may indicate that the area here has been truncated, possibly during construction of the adjacent Cut-Off channel bund. To the south the natural subsoil descended into a natural hollow, infilled with grey sands containing bands of darker organic material. A possible pit, 0020, was identified within this hollow measuring 1.2m long and 0.4m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, 0021, was the same as the surrounding subsoil bands of dark brown/black sand with organic material and it may be that this is a natural feature or treehole.

Trench 3

(Fig. 4)

Trench 3 was 44m in length and generally aligned E-W. This trench was slightly out of its intended position due to the need to avoid existing trees. The bulk of the features identified on the site lie within this trench and lay sealed beneath a layer of mixed sands.

Ditch 0030, running across the north-east end of the trench, was aligned NE-SW and measured 0.8m wide and 0.15m deep. Its fill, 0031, a dark grey, iron pan mottled sand, contained a single sherd of 12th century pottery.

0027 was an undated, small, shallow posthole, 0.4m in diameter and 0.1m deep with a dark grey/black sand/soil fill (0048).

0028 and 0029 were a pair of undated, north-south aligned ditches measuring 0.7m wide and 0.15m deep. Parallel to each other they were 3m apart and had similar fills of grey sands (0049 and 0050).

0051 was a broad, shallow feature, thought to be a north-south aligned ditch, consisting of five separate recuts (0032-0036). It measured 3.8m wide in total and was approximately 0.2-0.3m deep. The eastern edge was truncated by a modern water pipe. Four sherds of 12th century

pottery and a small amount of animal bone (0044) were recovered from the combined fills of the ditch.

0037 and 0039 were a pair of north-south aligned ditches, parallel to each other and 0.8m apart. Before excavation they appeared to form one single broad ditch as their fills of mid/dark grey sand (0038 and 0040) merged together. 0037 was 0.5m wide and 0.2m deep with a steep-sided cut. 0039 was 0.6m wide and 0.15m deep and contained three sherds of 12th century pottery.

Adjacent to ditch 0039 was an undated circular pit, 0041, extending under the north trench edge. It measured 0.8m wide and 0.3m deep, with a fill of mid/dark grey sand (0042).

0045 was a broad, north-south aligned ditch with gentle sides and a flat base measuring 1m wide and 0.2m deep. The fill, 0046, a grey sand, contained three sherds of 12th century pottery.

A section, 0052, was recorded of the trench profile at its western end where the natural subsoil was descending into another possible natural hollow with a fill of fine dark brown sands.

Trench 4

(Fig. 6)

This trench was 18m in length and aligned north-south. It contained no archaeological features. Two areas of modern disturbance were seen at the north end and two trench profiles, 0024 and 0025 were recorded which showed the deep topsoil and layer of mixed sands overlying the natural subsoil seen elsewhere on the site.

Test pits 1-5

Five engineering test pits were excavated by the developer, each approximately 2.5m long, 0.6m wide and 3m deep. No archaeological features were seen but they clearly showed the same soil profile seen elsewhere on the site, with a deep topsoil overlying a layer of mixed sands and the natural sand subsoil.

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

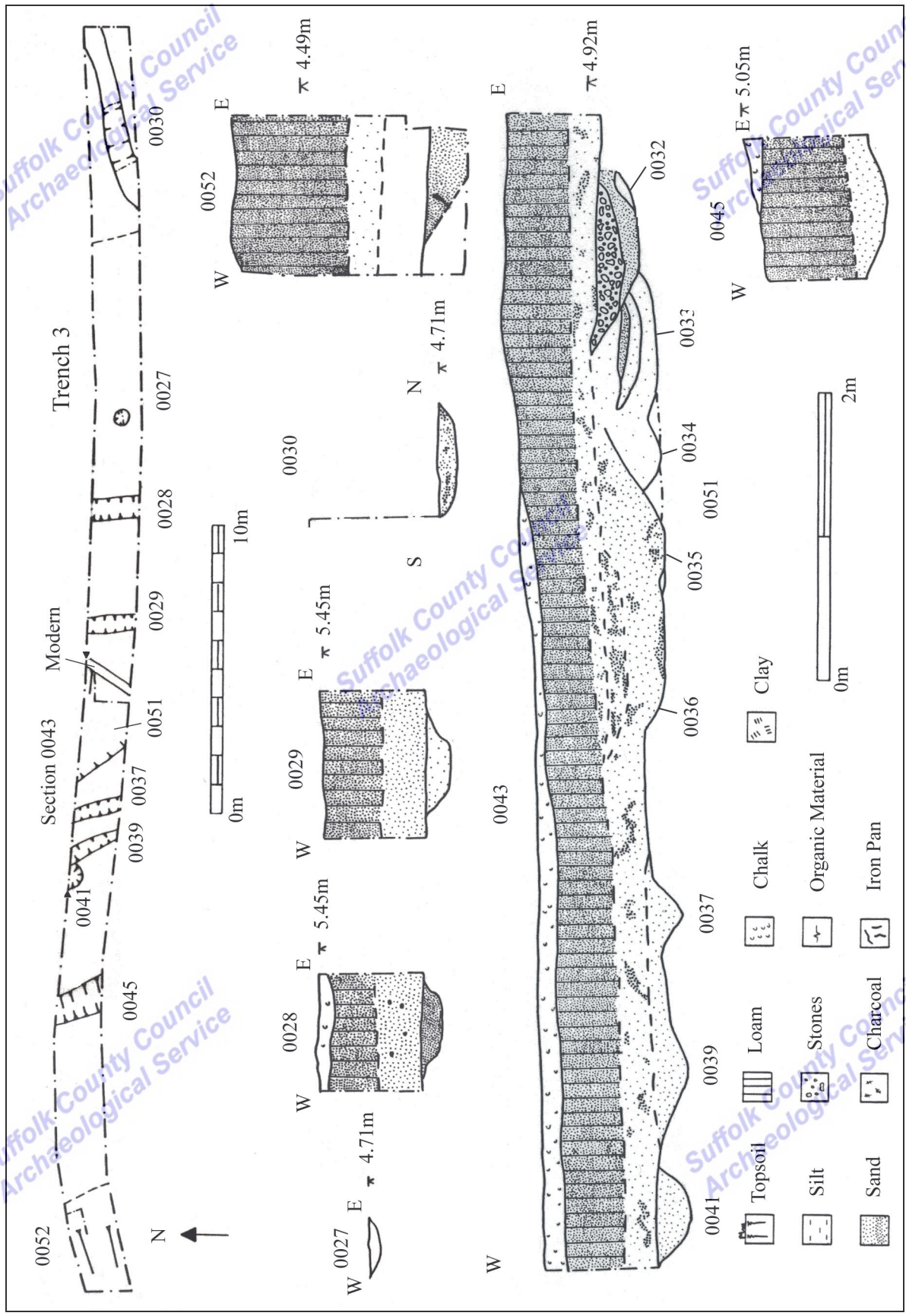


Figure 4. Trench 3 plan and sections

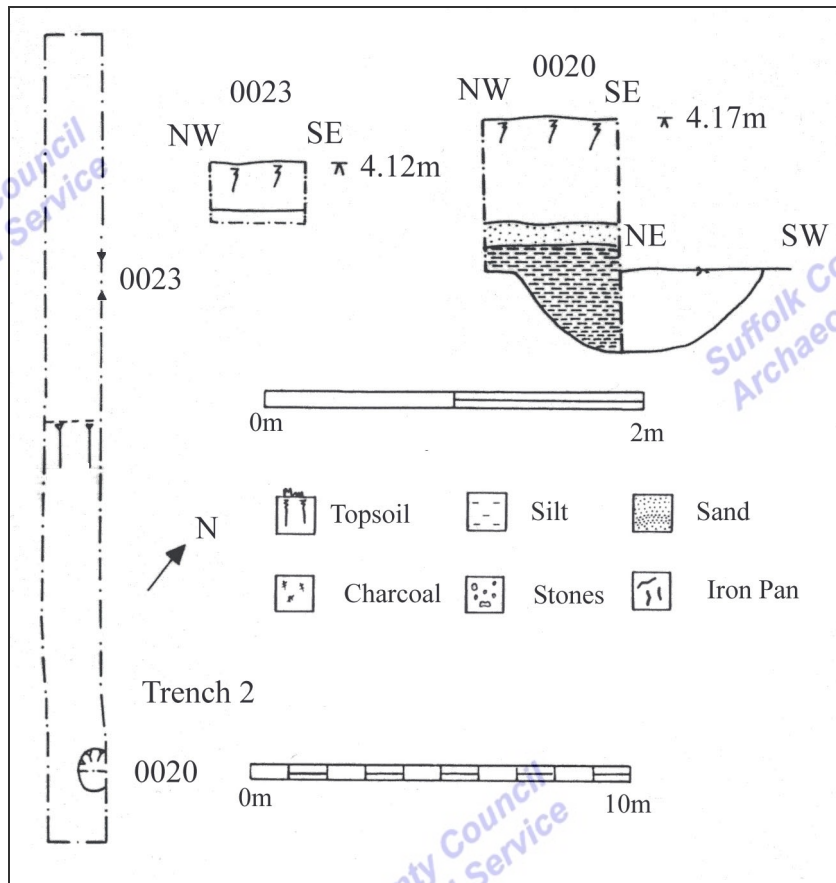


Figure 5. Trench 2 plan and sections

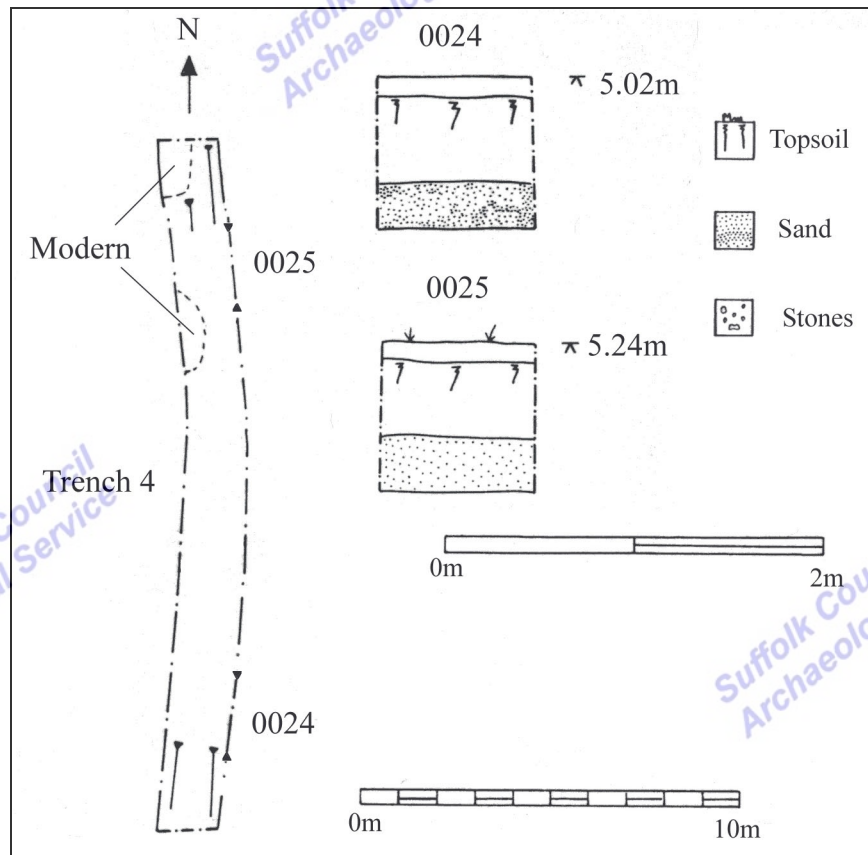


Figure 6. Trench 4 plan and sections

Finds and environmental evidence

Sue Anderson

Introduction

Finds were collected from 13 contexts, as shown in Table 1.

Context	Pottery		CBM		Animal bone		Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	
0003	4	30			8	145	12th c.
0011	2	11					11/12th c.?
0012			1	110			13th-15th c.
0014	1	2					11/12th c.
0015	1	9					16th-18th c.
0022	1	3					12th/14th c.
0026	3	29					12th c.
0031	1	5					12th c.
0038	1	3					12th/13th c.
0040	3	55					12th c.
0044	4	30			11	54	12th c.
0046	3	21			10	33	12th c.
0047	2	103	1	37	10	187	13th-15th c.
Total	26	301	2	147	39	419	

Table 1. Finds quantities.

Pottery

Twenty-six sherds of pottery were collected. Table 2 shows the quantities by fabric, and a full catalogue by context is included in Appendix 3.

Fabric	Code	No	Wt/g
Thetford-type ware	THET	2	19
Grimston Thetford-type ware	THETG	2	26
Stamford ware	STAM	1	4
Early medieval ware	EMW	9	53
Early medieval ware calcareous	EMWC	2	11
Medieval coarseware	MCW	4	28
Medieval coarseware calcareous	MCWC	4	146
Glazed red earthenware	GRE	1	9
Unidentified	UNID	1	5

Table 2. Pottery quantities by fabric.

The majority of pottery from this site belongs to the early medieval period, centred on the 12th century. Most fragments were body sherds, but there was a simple everted jar rim of EMW in 0040, and this context also produced a medieval coarseware beaded bowl rim. Six sherds in this group were in calcareous fabrics which are typical of the fens and may have been made in Ely or possibly Mildenhall. Other early medieval fabrics were more like Norfolk EMW, which is particularly common in Thetford and Norwich. One sherd of pale yellow glazed Stamford ware showed signs of burning and was probably residual in 0040, but it, together with the presence of some Thetford ware, indicates a Late Saxon beginning for the activity on this site.

Only one sherd of post-medieval pottery was found, a glazed red earthenware body sherd of 16th-18th century date in 0015.

Ceramic building material

Two sherds of coarse sandy estuarine clay roof tiles of 13th-15th century date were recovered from 0012 and 0047.

Animal bone

Fragments of animal bone were recovered from four contexts. From 0003 there were fragments of cow rib, talus, juvenile tibia, sheep pelvis and mandible, some of which showed signs of butchery (cut marks) and gnawing by canids. 0044 produced a gnawed sheep scapula, a fragment of ?cow scapula with toothmarks and crazing from boiling, and several bird bones (possibly goose). A juvenile sheep tibia and a fragment of large mammal long bone were the only identifiable pieces from 0046. Fragments of a horse mandible and four teeth were collected from 0047.

Summary and discussion

Pottery from the site indicates activity in the Late Saxon and early medieval periods, with the small groups from most features suggesting 12th century dates for deposition. There is evidence that the pottery was sourced from nearby production sites in Cambridgeshire and Norfolk, and one fragment of Stamford ware from Lincolnshire was also present.

The presence of medieval roof tile suggests a medium to high status building of 13th-15th century date in the vicinity.

Animal bone from the site is well-preserved and would benefit from specialist analysis.

This is a good assemblage of finds dating to a relatively short time period, with high potential for providing information about medieval pottery use and distribution in west Suffolk. Assemblages of any size from this area, particularly in an urban context, are currently rare. If further work is carried out, the finds should provide much needed data which can be compared with assemblages from eastern Cambridgeshire and south-west Norfolk.

Discussion

The four trenches show that the natural subsoil exists intact, at a depth of 0.8-1m, beneath a deep layer of modern topsoil with the exception of part of trench 2 where the topsoil was truncated. Very little modern disturbance to the subsoil was found, apart from a pipe trench in trench 3 and two modern pits in trench 4. The subsoil and archaeological features were generally well preserved beneath a layer of mixed sands and the natural topography of a gentle west facing slope with an undulating surface and occasional shallow hollows was apparent. The subsoil itself, a mix of fine sands and gravels, showed heavy iron panning and has probably been subject to waterlogging at some point.

The principal objective of the evaluation was to establish either the presence or absence of the structure shown on Hodskinsons map of 1783. The trenches showed a complete absence of any evidence, either structural or material for this building, with the possible exception of two fragments of 13th-15th century roof tile (0012 and 0047). This absence of the main structure and ancillary buildings, and of any material, particularly from its demolition phase would suggest that the site of the building may be at some distance from the development area.

However trenches 2 and 3 did locate evidence of a medieval phase of activity, principally over a short period of time in the 12th century, with a series of roughly parallel ditches containing finds evidence of that date. The medieval core of the village lies to the north and this is good evidence of medieval occupation extending in this direction. Other undated features are probably part of the same phase of activity.

The alignment of these ditches, with the noticeable exception of 0030, follow a similar alignment to the high street and all of the ditches, including 0030, follow similar alignments to the modern property boundaries. This may indicate that the modern property and field boundaries have their origins in the medieval period. These ditches may also be showing a shifting boundary between the fens and the rear of properties fronting the road.

The features, and the natural subsoil, were sealed by a layer of mixed sands from which finds of 13th-15th century date were recovered from above ditch 0002 (0012) and 16th-18th century from above 0013 (0015). Other 13th-15th century finds were recovered to the east of 0002. This suggests that the early medieval phase of activity, represented by the system of ditches, ends during the 13th century with their infilling. Subsequently the site appears to have remained as open ground, with a low intensity of use, behind the properties fronting onto the high street, allowing the gradual build up of a thick garden topsoil.

The current layout of the site and surrounding properties does not appear to have changed significantly in the last century, with the OS map of 1880 (Fig. 7) clearly showing the development area as open ground. The exception to this is the creation of the Cut-off Channel through farmland on the western edge of the village, which appears to have moved the fen edge eastwards towards the modern settlement. This means that originally there may have been more space between the High Street and the fens for a wider spread of occupation, which is perhaps seen in the medieval evidence seen on the site.

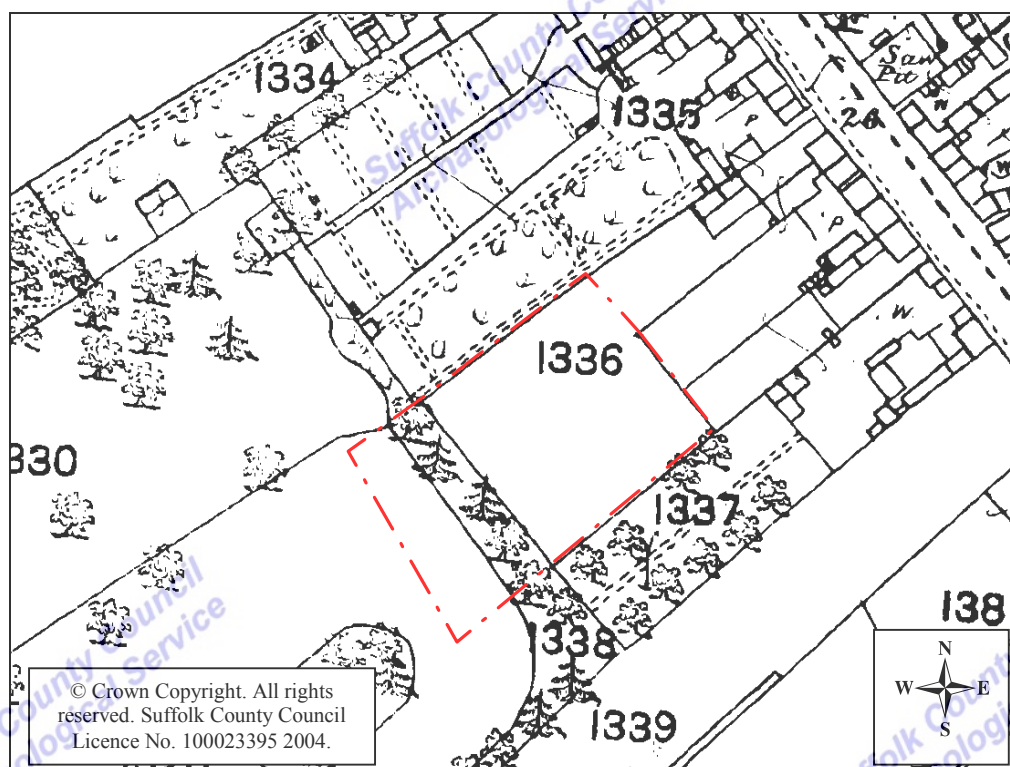


Figure 7. Site on 1880 OS map.

Recommendations

The evaluation has clearly established the absence of the house seen on Hodskinsons map in the development area but has located a series of early medieval ditches, which are important evidence of occupation in this period, outside of the known medieval core of the village.

These features are preserved beneath a deep layer of subsoil and are likely to only be directly disturbed during development by footing trenches and associated deep groundworks, providing the site strip is within 500mm. Archaeological monitoring during the excavation of footing trenches should be adequate, with particular emphasis on the four plots being placed on the area of trench 3.

The monitoring of the groundworks should aim to establish the course of the ditches, and to locate as complete a stratified sample of pottery evidence as possible, as the site has high potential for providing information about medieval pottery use and distribution in west Suffolk. A larger material assemblage will also offer the possibility of comparison with assemblages from eastern Cambridgeshire and south-west Norfolk. Monitoring may also locate any other evidence of medieval occupation, which should be as fully excavated as possible. Further specialist analysis of the combined animal bone assemblage from this evaluation and any future monitoring work is also recommended.

Similar monitoring of other developments in the area have shown that this method can appropriately record archaeological evidence during the construction work.

Disclaimer

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

Appendix 1

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation

Land to the rear of 132 High St, Lakenheath

1. Background

- 1.1 Outline planning consent [F/2004/0407/OUT] has been granted for the development of 7 dwellings on this site.
- 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 development area lies within an area defined in the County S.M.R. (LKH161) as the location of substantial house. The evidence for this is principally Hodkinson's 18th century map which shows the house to the SW of the recognised medieval urban core (figure 1). There is the potential for both a dwelling and ancillary buildings and structures, together with associated deposits. The principal aim of the evaluation is to demonstrate presence or absence.
- 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

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*.
- 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 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.4 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.
- 2.5 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.
- 2.6 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.
- 2.7 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

3. Specification : Field Evaluation

- 3.1 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover a minimum 5% by area of the entire site and shall be positioned to sample all parts of the site. Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.8m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated. If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' at least 1.2m wide must be used. The trench design must be approved by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service before field work begins, but a suggested design is attached.
- 3.2 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine fitted with toothless bucket and other equipment. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.

- 3.3 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of further excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.
- 3.4 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation, that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled.
- 3.5 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.
- 3.6 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.
- 3.7 Any natural subsoil surface revealed should be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Sample excavation of any archaeological features revealed may be necessary in order to gauge their date and character.
- 3.8 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed with the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service during the course of the evaluation).
- 3.9 Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. However, the excavator should be aware of, and comply with, the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.
- 3.10 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.
- 3.11 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies.
- 3.12 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.

4. **General Management**

- 4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service.
- 4.2 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors).
- 4.3 A general Health and Safety Policy must be provided, with detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this particular site.
- 4.4 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 4.5 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* and for *Field Evaluations* should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

5. **Report Requirements**

- 5.1 An archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1).
- 5.2 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monuments Record.
- 5.3 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 5.4 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given. No further site work should be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established
- 5.5 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.
- 5.6 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).

- 5.7 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*. The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County SMR if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.
- 5.8 The site archive is to be deposited with the County SMR within three months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 5.9 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project (whether it be evaluation or excavation) a summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology*, must be prepared. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to the Conservation Team, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 5.10 County SMR sheets must be completed, as per the county SMR manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 5.11 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 5.12 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the SMR. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

Specification by: R D Carr

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

Tel: 01284 352441

Date: 16 July 2004

Reference: /Cavenham-ParkFarm07

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: context list

opno	component	feature	trench	identifier	Section No	No description	cuts	cutby	over	under	phase	spotdate
0002	0002	1	Ditch cut	0017 0018	0017 0018	Ditch, aligned NW-SE, 1.2m wide and 0.4m deep. To west the ditch cuts layers 0010 and 0011 and is sealed by 0012. To east these layers are truncated by the modern topsoil.	0010 0011			0012	I	12th c.
0003	0002	1	Ditch fill	0017 0018	0017 0018	Fill of ditch 0002. Main basal fill, dark grey/brown, loose friable sand with iron panning. Lies over slumped deposit 0009 on west side.			0009	0004 0008	I	
0004	0002	1	Ditch fill	0017 0018	0017 0018	Fill of ditch 0002. Mid grey, loose friable sand.			0003	0005 0006		
0005	0002	1	Ditch fill	0017 0018	0017 0018	Fill of ditch 0002. Dark grey/brown friable loose sand.			0003 0004 0008	0006 0007		
0006	0002	1	Ditch fill	0017 0018	0017 0018	Fill of ditch 0002. Mid brown/grey friable sand.			0004 0005	0007 0012		
0007	0002	1	Ditch fill	0017 0018	0017 0018	Fill of ditch 0002. Mid brown/grey friable sand.			0005 0006 0008	0012		
0008	0002	1	Ditch fill	0017 0018	0017 0018	Fill of ditch 0002. Light grey sand with some gravel, slumping infill.			0003 0009- 0011	0007 0012		
0009	0002	1	Ditch fill	0018	0018	Fill of ditch 0002. Initial silting/slumping fill of ditch.				0008 0003		
0010	0010	1	Layer	0017 0018	0017 0018	Layer in trench 1. Directly over natural subsoil. Pale/mid grey/brown sand with moderated iron panning.		0002		0011		
0011	0011	1	Layer	0017 0018	0017 0018	Layer in trench 1. Pale/mid brown/grey sand with iron panning.			0010	0012	I	11/12th c.?
0012	0012	1	Layer	0017 0018	0017 0018	Layer in trench 1. Mid/dark grey/brown sand/soil beneath the topsoil. A former topsoil?			0005-0008 0011		II	13-15th c.
0013	0013	1	Ditch cut	0019	0019	Ditch, aligned NW-SE. Shallow cut, approx 1.2m wide and 0.1m deep.					I	
0014	0013	1	Ditch fill	0019	0019	Fill of ditch 0013. Dark grey, friable, sand. Extends as a spread on either side of ditch.				0015	I	11/12th c.

opno	component	feature	trench	identifier	Section No	Description	cuts	cutby	over	under	phase	spotdate
0015	0015	1	Layer	0019	0019	Layer of dark brown, friable sand with heavy iron panning, c.0.1-0.3m thick. Lies over natural subsoil, under topsoil and seals ditch 0013. Similar to layers 0010-0012.		0014			II	16-18th c.
0016	0016	1	Trench profile			Section of trench 1 profile.						
0017	0002	1	Section	0017	0017	Section of ditch 0002, SW-NE.						
0018	0002	1	Section	0018	0018	Section of ditch 0002, NE-SW.						
0019	0013	1	Section	0019	0019	Section of ditch 0013, SW-NE.						
0020	0020	2	Pit cut			Possible pit, 50% within trench and therefore 25% excavated. Steep sides, concave base, 1.1m long and 0.4m deep. Probably a natural feature or treehole within an apparent hollow at the south end of the trench.						
0021	0020	2	Pit fill			Fill of pit 0020. Compacted dark grey/black sand. Fill is very similar to natural deposits/bands within the surrounding natural which is infilling a natural hollow.						
0022	0022	2	Unstratified finds			Unstratified finds from trench 2.					I	12-14th c.
0023	0023	2	Trench profile			Section of trench 2 profile.						
0024	0024	4	Trench profile			Section of trench 4 profile.						
0025	0025	4	Trench profile			Section of trench 4 profile.						
0026	0026	3	Unstratified finds			Unstratified finds from southern half of trench 3.					I	12th c.
0027	0027	3	Posthole cut			Small posthole in trench 4. Possibly natural/modern, 0.40m diameter and 0.1m deep.						
0028	0028	3	Ditch cut			Ditch, aligned north-south. 0.7m wide and 0.15m deep.						
0029	0029	3	Ditch cut			Ditch, aligned north-south. 0.7m wide and 0.15m deep.						

opno	component	feature	trench	identifier	Section No	No description	cuts	cutby	over	under	phase	spotdate
0030	0030	0030	3	Ditch cut		Ditch, aligned east-west, 0.8m wide and 0.15m deep.					I	
0031	0030	0030	3	Ditch fill		Fill of ditch 0030. Dark grey sand with heavy iron pan mottling.					I	12th c.
0032	0051	0032	3	Ditch cut	0043	One of 5 cuts in ditch 0051. 1.2m wide and c.0.3m deep.	0033					
0033	0051	0033	3	Ditch cut	0043	One of 5 cuts in ditch 0051. 0.8m wide and c.0.2m deep.	0032					
0034	0051	0034	3	Ditch cut	0043	One of 5 cuts in ditch 0051. 0.6m wide and c.0.2m deep.	0035					
0035	0051	0035	3	Ditch cut	0043	One of 5 cuts in ditch 0051. 1m wide and c.0.4m deep.	0034					
0036	0051	0036	3	Ditch cut	0043	One of 5 cuts in ditch 0051. 1m wide and 0.1m deep.						
0037	0037	0037	3	Ditch cut	0043	Ditch, aligned north-south, steep sided, 0.5m wide and 0.2m deep.					I	
0038	0037	0037	3	Ditch fill	0043	Fill of ditch 0037. Mid/dark grey sand.					I	12/13th c.
0039	0039	0039	3	Ditch cut	0043	Ditch, aligned north-south, 0.6m wide and 0.15m deep. Adjacent to pit 0041.					I	
0040	0039	0039	3	Ditch fill	0043	Fill of ditch 0039. Mid/dark grey sand.					I	12th c.
0041	0041	0041	3	Pit cut	0043	Circular pit, 0.8m in diameter and 0.3m deep with concave base. Adjacent to ditch 0039.						
0042	0041	0041	3	Pit fill	0043	Fill of pit 0041. Mid/dark grey sand.						
0043	0037 0039 0041 0051	0043	3	Section	0043	Section across ditches 0037, 0039, 0051 and pit 0041.						
0044	0051	0044	3	Find		Find						
0045		0045	3	Ditch cut		Broad ditch, aligned north-south, with gentle sides and a flat base. 1m wide and 0.2m deep.					I	12th c.

opno	component	feature	trench	identifier	Section No	description	cuts	cutby	over	under	phase	spotdate
0046		0045	3	Ditch fill		Fill of ditch 0045. Grey sand.					I	12th c.
0047		0047	1	Unstratified finds		Unstratified finds from trench 1. Mainly from disturbance to east of 0002.					II	13-15th c.
0048		0027	3	Posthole fill		Fill of posthole 0027. Dark grey/black sand.						
0049		0028	3	Ditch fill		Fill of ditch 0028. Dark grey sand.						
0050		0029	3	Ditch fill		Fill of ditch 0029. Pale grey sand.						
0051	0051	0051	3	Ditch component		Large, broad (approx 3.8m) ditch formed from 5 distinct recuts (0032-0036).					I	
0052		0052	3	Trench profile		Section of trench 3 profile at west end of trench.						
0053	0051	0032	3	Ditch fill	0043	Fill of ditch cut 0032. Dark grey sand.						
0054	0051	0033	003	Ditch fill	0043	Fill of ditch cuts 0033 and 0034. Mid grey sand.						
0055	0051	0035	003	Ditch fill	0043	Fill of ditch cuts 0035 and 0036. Mid/dark grey sand.						

Appendix 3: pottery

Context	Fabric	No.	Wt/g	Ab.	Notes	Spotdate
0003	EMW	1	3			11th/12th c.
	MCW	1	1			12th-14th c.
	THETG	2	26		wear int	12th/13th c.
0011	EMWC	1	6			12th/13th c.
	UNID	1	5	+	fine micaceous, may be Rom or ESax? Poss handmade.	
0014	EMW	1	2			11th/12th c.
0015	GRE	1	9			16th-18th c.
0022	MCW	1	3			12th-14th c.
0026	THET	2	19		finger tip impression, fabric not normal, may be MCW	10th/11th c.?
	EMW	1	10			11th/12th c.
0031	EMWC	1	5			12th/13th c.
0038	MCWC	1	3		v. fine calcareous inclusions (may be LSax)	12th/13th c.
0040	EMW	1	11		jar rim, wheel finished	11th/12th c.
	MCWC	1	40		beaded bowl rim, sooted	12th/13th c.
	STAM	1	4		yellow glaze, burnt	10th/11th c.
0044	EMW	3	19			11th/12th c.
	MCW	1	11		may be handmade	12th/13th c.?
0046	EMW	2	8			11th/12th c.
	MCW	1	13		ATS, possibly handmade	12th/13th c.?
0047	MCWC	2	103			12th/13th c.?
Total		26	301			

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service