

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

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## ULLSWATER ROAD, CAMPSEY ASH CAA 025

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING, 2006  
Planning app. no. C/04/2374  
OASIS ID no. 46686

Suffolk County Council  
Archaeological Service

Linzi Everett  
Field Team  
Suffolk C.C. Archaeological Service

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SCCAS Report No. 2006/06

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## List of Contributors

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## Summary

Archaeological monitoring of various groundworks was carried out prior to development on land off Ullswater Road, Campsey Ash. Whilst the site had been heavily disturbed by ploughing and drains associated with a nearby sewerage plant, one small Roman pit was recorded within an area stripped for an access road.

## HER information

Planning application no. C/04/2374  
Date of fieldwork: Late 2005 - Spring 2006  
Grid Reference: TM 3230 5550  
Funding body: Needham Contracts Ltd  
OASIS ID No. 46686

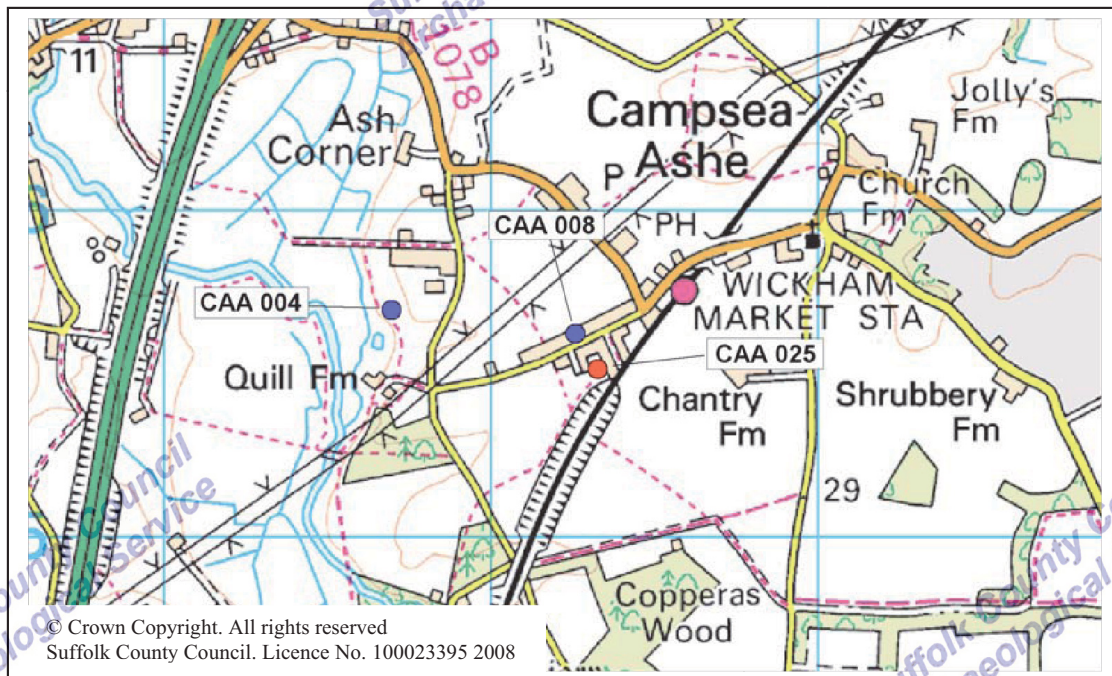


Figure 1. Site location

## Introduction

Planning consent for development at Ullswater Road, Campsey Ash (Fig 1), required a programme of archaeological monitoring to be undertaken. The area is centred on TM 323 555 above the east side of the Deben valley at approximately 25m OD. Roman pottery scatters (CAA 008) have been found within 100m of the site and further Roman and later activity is known in the valley to the west (CAA 004). In addition, the site is less than 2km from the Hacheston Roman small town. As such, there is the potential for the presence of Roman or other evidence within the development area.

The work was carried out by members of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) Field Team and was commissioned by Barefoot & Gilles and funded by Needham Contracts Ltd.

## Methodology

Visits were made between November 2005 and Spring 2006 to observe the stripping of access roads and the excavation of footings and a service trench. A Brief and Specification for the archaeological monitoring was produced by Jude Plouviez of the SCCAS Conservation Team (Appendix I).

Where features were revealed, they were cleaned manually for definition and each allocated 'observed phenomena' numbers within a unique continuous numbering system under the HER (Historic Environment Record) code CAA 025 (Appendix II). Exposed features were cleaned for definition and photographs taken as a part of the site archive. The monitoring archive will be deposited in the County HER at Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds.

All finds were washed and marked before being quantified, identified and dated by the finds management staff of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service.

## Results

Locations of the monitored areas are shown on Figure 2, and the results outlined below.

### Service Trench

Visits were made to examine the sections and spoil of a trench excavated along the south and west boundaries of the site. This revealed a dark brown loamy clay topsoil averaging 200mm thick over natural orange boulder clay. No interventions were observed or finds recovered.

### Road Strip

Much of the northern part of the development was stripped of up to 500mm of overburden for the creation of access roads. The majority of overburden comprised c.350mm of dark brown loamy clay topsoil sealing a mid greyish brown sandy clay subsoil. The stripped formation level comprised a somewhat mixed, dirty natural subsoil with frequent plough scores and gravel filled finger drains, particularly in the north west corner (Fig. 2) These were thought to be associated with the former sewage works nearby. One feature was observed in the stripped surface, pit 0004 (Fig. 3). This was a narrow, shallow, NW-SE aligned oval pit filled by 0005, a mid-dark brown sandy clay with frequent charcoal and pottery. The surrounding natural clay had been heat altered along the south western edge, suggesting that the feature may represent the disposal of waste material, including hot embers.

### Footings

Footings had been excavated to a depth of c.1.2m, revealing 200-300mm of dark brown loamy clay topsoil over the orangey brown clay natural subsoil. No pre-modern interventions were observed in any of the monitored footings.



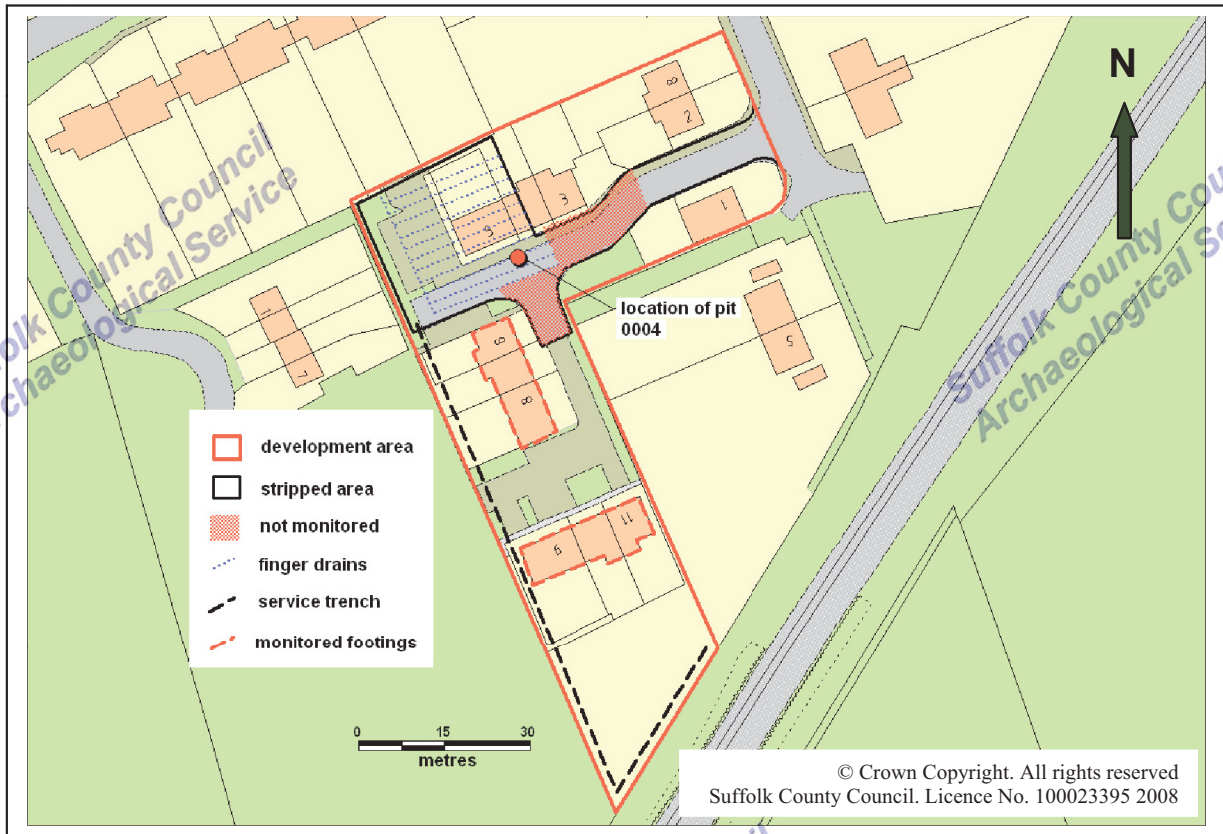


Figure 2. Locations of the various monitored groundworks

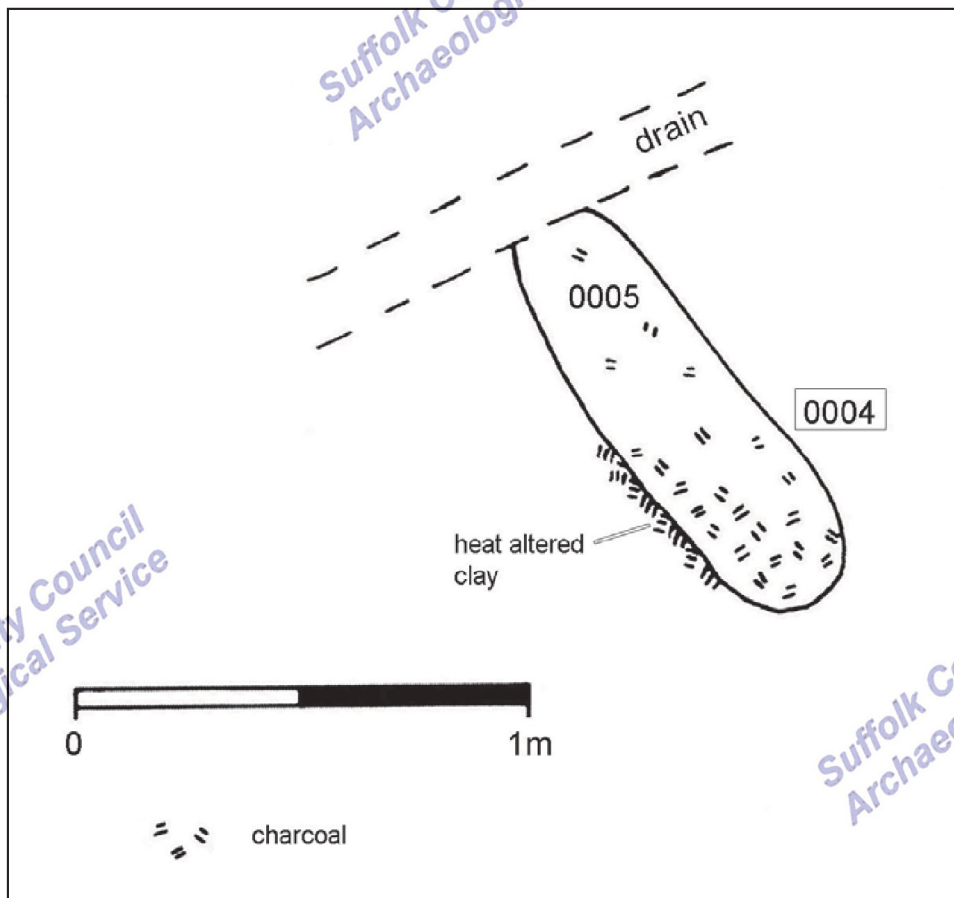


Figure 3. Plan of pit 0004

## Ullswater Road, Campsea Ash (CAA 025): the finds

Cathy Tester, August 2006

### Introduction

Finds were collected from two contexts, one an oval pit (0004, fill 0005) and the other unstratified (0003) in the subsoil layer. Finds quantities are shown in the table below.

Context	Pottery		Fired clay		Iron		Charcoal		Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	
0003	2	83							ERom, IA or ESax
0005	78	627	5	20	2	16	1	1	ERom (M/LC1-EC2)
Total	80	710	5	20	2	16			

Table 1. Finds quantities

### Pottery

Eighty sherds of pottery weighing 710g were collected. The majority of them (78) came from pit fill 0005 and just two sherds were unstratified (0003). Almost all of the sherds are wheel-made and Early Roman whilst a single hand-made sherd could be Iron Age or Early Saxon. Details of fabric, form and quantities by context are shown below.

Context	Fabric	Sherd	No	Wt/g	Notes	Date
0003	BSW	r	1	77	Bead and flange-rimmed bowl type 6.15. thick	LC1-EC2
	HMSO	b	1	6	Hand-made. Black surfs. and core. Smoothed ext. Organic impressions and burnt	IA or ESax?
0005	BSW	b	4	23	Miscellaneous bodysherds	ERom
	BSW	b	8	63	'Romanising' fabric, some flaked	
	BSW	r	1	9	Necked jar rim 7 (110mm, 14%) sandy fabric with patchy surf colour - orange/black	
	BSW	b	2	16	Poss. lid?	ERom
	BUF	b	11	26	Flagon neck & shoulder. SV. Fine-textured. Abraded.	ERom
	GX	b	5	24	Miscellaneous bodysherds	
	GX	b	1	2	Cam 218 cordoned carinated vessel. Orange-brown surfaces	M/LC1
	GX	b	5	103	From >2 Jars. All sandy w grey core, but grey-brown surfs. some patchy with orange. 2 sep vessels w rows of stabbed decoration below a bead cordon	LC1-EC2
	LYON	rb	2	2	Small globular beaker. Greenish white fabric, dark slip - Abraded	40-70 AD
	RF	bba	10	61	Cordoned vessel with footring base. Orange fab, ext surf is orange lower, buff upper	LC1-EC2
	RX	b	23	201	Jar. SV. Sandy fabric patchy surf colour orange brown, dark grey core. V flaked/abraded	
	STOR	r	1	44	Storage jar rim 8 (280mm, 6%)	ERom
UCC	b	5	53	White fabric w dark core and reddish brown '?slip' pitted and abraded.	Rom?	

Table 2. Pottery by context.

Key: b = bodysherd, ba = base, r = rim. SV = single vessel.

## *Methodology*

The pottery was quantified by sherd count and weight and estimated vessel equivalent (Eve). Roman wares were classified using the type series devised for recording Roman pottery at Pakenham (unpublished) which is standard for all SCCAS excavations but is supplemented by Hawkes and Hull's (1947) *Camulodunum* typology when necessary. Forms were noted as they occurred and each 'sherd family' given a separate entry on the database table. A x10 microscope was used to identify the fabrics. SCCAS pottery recording forms were used and the results were input onto an Access 97 table.

### *Hand-made pottery*

A single bodysherd of hand-made sand and organic tempered (HMSO) pottery was unstratified in the subsoil layer (0003). The sherd is non-diagnostic and cannot be certainly identified as Iron Age or Early Saxon on the basis of its fabric alone.

### *Roman pottery*

Seventy-nine sherds of wheel-made Roman pottery were collected and the most datable belong to the Early Roman Period. All but one sherd of the Roman pottery was recovered from context 0005, the top layer of pit 0004 (the rest of which remained unexcavated). Some of the pottery is very fragmentary with many sherds flaked and possibly discoloured due to the *in situ* burning that was noted on one side of the pit.

Seven fabrics or fabric groups were identified which consisted almost entirely of local or regional wares.

#### **Finewares**

The only import is a small Lyons ware (LYON) beaker with a short everted rim. The fabric is greenish-white and the surface is almost totally abraded, but traces of a dark slip remain, not enough however, to determine whether the surface had been 'roughcast' with sand, a trademark of the Lyons industry whose distribution was pre-Flavian (40-70 AD).

Also fine, but of local or regional origin, is a substantial proportion of a cordoned vessel in a red fineware (RF) fabric with a footring base that is most like those found on samian forms. Accidentally, or due to abrasion, the top part of the vessel has a buff external surface with an orange core and interior and the lower half is orange throughout. This may be a native copy of a post-Conquest Gallo-Belgic form, possibly what Hull (1947) described as 'pedestal beakers.' The original Continental versions of these forms often appear in *Terra Rubra* fabric.

A buff ware flagon (BUF) in a fine-textured fabric was also found.

#### **Coarsewares**

Black-surfaced wares (BSW) were the most common grey ware found and here they can be regarded as chronologically early. Many of these sherds have 'romanising fabrics' containing fine black grog and burnt organic material which is an indication of their earliness. Forms represented are jars which could only be broadly identified because they were so fragmentary, a possible lid and a flange-rimmed bowl. Numerous sherds from a single red ware (RX) jar may also be BSW which has lost its surface. Miscellaneous sandy grey wares (GX) are represented by a Cam 218 cordoned carinated jar (probably mid or late 1st century) and by other less diagnostic jar forms. Sherds from two separate Cam 267-type high-shouldered jars were decorated with a horizontal row of stabs below the bead cordon at the base of the neck. A storage jar rim (STOR) was also present.

## Miscellaneous

### *Fired clay*

Five fragments of fired clay were collected from 0005. The pieces, which are all the same fine dense fabric with coarse sand but few other inclusions, are soft and abraded, have buff 'surfaces' and darker grey cores. One fragment has a possible roundwood impression.

### *Iron*

A broken nail and a small unidentified flat fragment of iron were collected from 0005.

### *Charcoal*

A fragment of charcoal was collected from 0005.

## Discussion of the finds and environmental evidence

The finds assemblage is limited, coming as it does from one feature but the datable finds belong to the early Roman period and probably represent the disposal of domestic waste resulting from occupation in the immediate vicinity.

The most common (and datable) find type is pottery which consists of a range of local or regional wares that are typical for rural settlements of this period. The forms identified are post-Conquest and include cooking and finer tablewares, among them imported and local or regionally-produced finewares. One may need to look no further than the the small Roman town at Hacheston (1 mile away) where pottery was produced from the 1st to 3rd centuries (Plouviez, 2004) for the source of most pottery supplied to this site. The presence of the more specialised finewares would suggest access to markets further away, such as Colchester.

## Discussion

Despite monitoring of a various groundworks and the stripping of a large area to the depth of the natural subsoil, only a single feature was recorded, and various finds were collected from the subsoil layer. Plough scores and drainage work in the northern part of the site suggest that this area has been subject to significant disturbance over time, which may have destroyed any shallow deposits once present. In the south of the development area, where the groundworks were less extensive, no features or deposits were observed but isolated features could still exist. Certainly the finds recovered suggest occupation within the vicinity of the development. A single sherd of Iron Age, or possibly Early Saxon, pottery is also of note.

Linzi Everett  
Field Projects Team,  
Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service.

## References

- Hawkes, C. F. and Hull, M. R., 1947, *Camulodunum*. Reports of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London No. 14, London
- Plouviez, J., 'Discussion', in Seeley, F., 'VI. The Hacheston kiln products', in Blagg, T., Plouviez, J., and Tester, A. 2004 *Excavations at a large Romano-British settlement at Hacheston, Suffolk in 1973-4. EAA 106*



## SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

*Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring of Development*ULLSWATER ROAD, CAMPSEY ASH

*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 (construction of 12 dwellings) has been granted conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (application C/04/2374). Assessment of the available archaeological evidence indicates that the area affected by development can be adequately recorded by archaeological monitoring.
- 1.2 The development lies at TM 323 555 above the east side of the Deben valley, just above 25m OD. Concentrations of Roman pottery have been found within 100m to the north (CAA 008) with further scattered finds on the field to the north but it is unclear which elements represent settlement activity rather than manuring. There is further Roman and later activity in the valley to the west and the Hacheston Roman small town is less than 2km to the north-west.
- 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, particularly in the Roman period.
- 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 **whilst** they **are** excavated by the building contractor.

In the case of footing trenches the excavation and the upcast soil, are to be observed **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 100 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.
- 4.6 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monuments Record.

### 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. 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: Judith Plouviez

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

Date: 30 March 2005

Reference: /CampseyAsh03

**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 II : Context List

OpNo	Context	Identifier	Description
0001	0001	Topsoil	Dark brown loamy clay, 350mm deep on average.
0002	0002	Subsoil	Mid brown sandy clay
0003	0003	Unstratified finds	Finds from subsoil but not from discernible feature
0004	0004	Feature cut	Oval feature, c.1m x 300mm but possibly larger and amorphous. Not excavated. Natural clay heat altered on one side of feature
0005	0004	Feature fill	Mid-dark brown sandy clay. Rich in pottery, charcoal and small quantity of burnt bone observed.