

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2009/139

‘Gemeed’, Bury Road, Pakenham PKM 056 and 058

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HER Information

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Funding Body: Mr and Mrs Babington

Curatorial Officer: Dr Jess Tipper

Project Officer: Jo Caruth

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Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out in advance of an extension to Gemeed, Bury Road, Pakenham and the construction of kennels in a field behind the house. The site lies within a known area of Roman occupation, on the north-west edge of the Roman town, and at the north-west corner of an early Roman fort and later civilian settlement. The only archaeological feature identified within the small extension area was a post-medieval pit, containing a large sherd of a possible 17th-18th century bread crock, although a mineralised soil layer with uneven base could possibly indicate the nearby presence of large features impacting on the appearance of the ground around.

The monitoring in advance of the construction of the kennels revealed the presence of a buried soil layer containing Roman occupation material and eight features, ditches and pits, all but one of which lay at the eastern end of the site. The finds recovered were dated to the 1st-3rd centuries AD. The features lay on the line of the western edge of the early Roman fort and may represent a group of small re-cut ditches forming a boundary extending from the NW corner of the fort enclosure, which continued in use as part of the Roman town after the fort went out of use in the 1st century AD.

1. Introduction

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken at the rear of 'Gemeed' (Fig. 1) on the south-west edge of Ixworth on the 10th and 13th July 2007 at the request of the owners Mr and Mrs Babington, during the excavation of footings ahead of the construction of an extension (PKM 058) and the erection of boarding kennels (PKM 056). The work was required to satisfy an archaeological condition on planning applications SE/07/0492 and SE/07/0775 for an extension to the existing house, grid ref: TL9292 6990 and some new dog kennels in the field behind the house and was carried out in accordance with an initial Brief and Specification (Appendix 1) and subsequent verbal brief for the second application provided by Dr Jess Tipper, SCCAS, Conservation team.

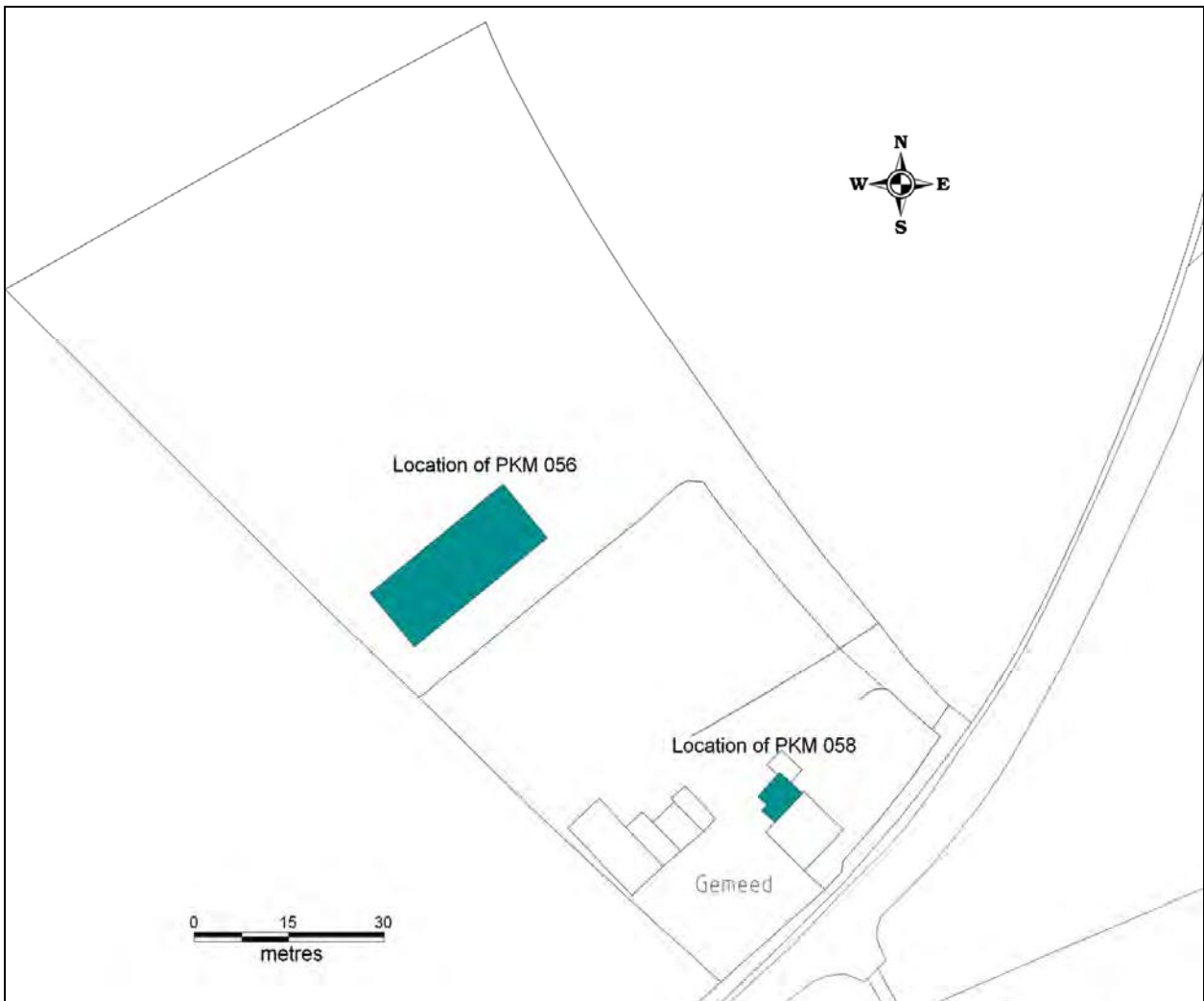


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Figure 1. Site location

2. Geology and topography

The site lies at grid ref: TL9296 6985, on the south-west edge of Ixworth, at c. 33m OD on a slight north-east slope overlooking the River Blackbourne (Fig. 1). The soil is a seasonally waterlogged fine loam/clay overlying chalky till.



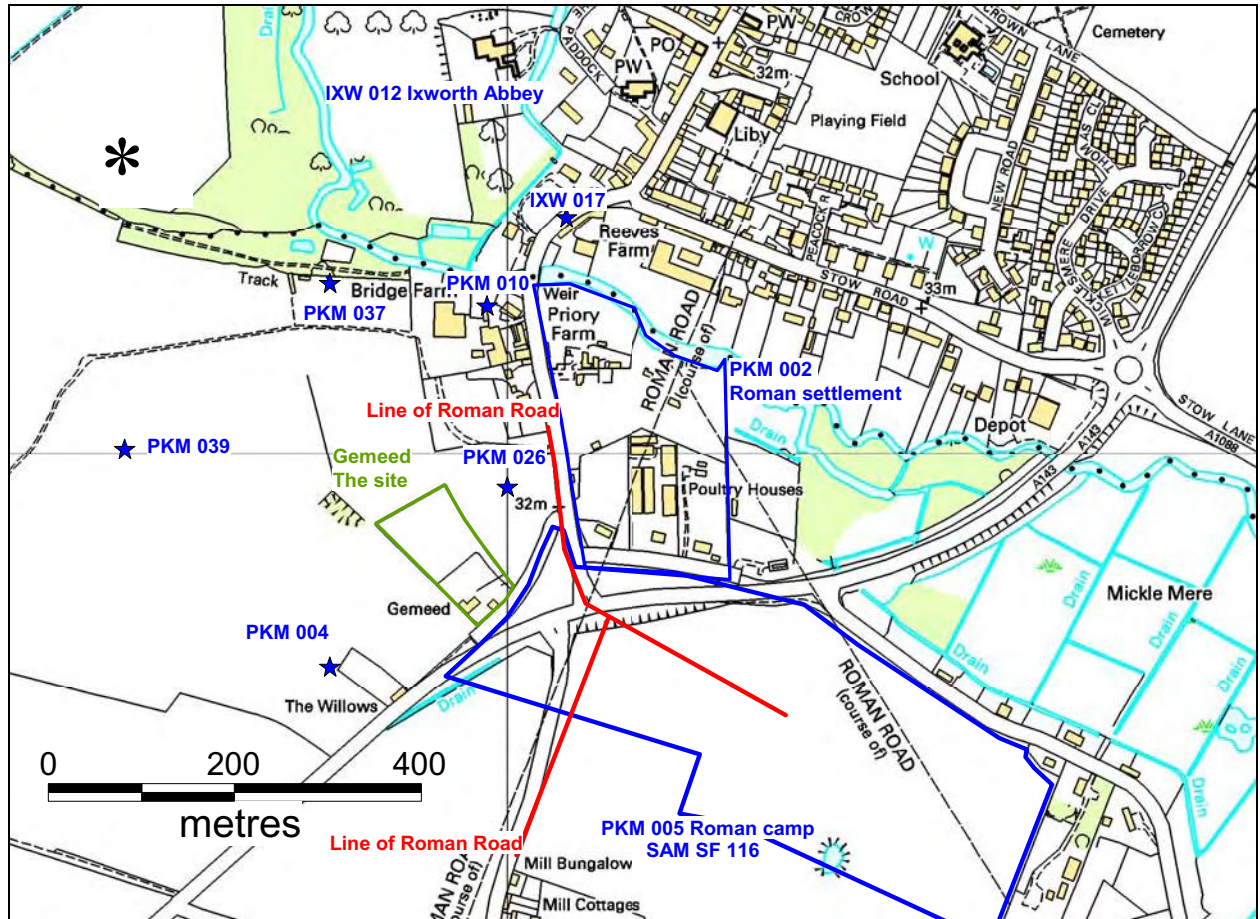
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Figure 2. Trench plan, showing location of PKM 056 and PKM 058 footings

3. Archaeological and historical background

The archaeological monitoring condition was placed upon the work as the property is situated within an area of known archaeological importance. Immediately to the east and south of the site is the location of a Roman Camp, PKM 005 and settlement PKM 002 (Fig. 3). Part of PKM 005 was subject to full excavation in 1985 (Plouviez in prep) in advance of the construction of the Ixworth by-pass. This identified part of the large square triple-ditched enclosure of a first century AD fort which had subsequently evolved into a planned Roman small town, including a pottery production centre, and which was continuously occupied until the end of the 4th century AD. The projected line of the south-west side of the fort enclosure could extend into this development area (Fig. 4). Roman finds scatters and *in situ* deposits have been found all around this site at sites PKM 010, 026, 004 and 039 (Fig. 3). The route of one of the two main N-S Roman roads (NB. the line marked on the Ordnance Survey maps is not accurate) that

run though Suffolk was found during the 1985 excavations (Fig. 4) and was also identified further north during the monitoring of a water pipe line in 2002 (site PKM 026, Tester 2002). As well as the road, evidence for a substantial building nearby was recovered during the PKM 026 monitoring.



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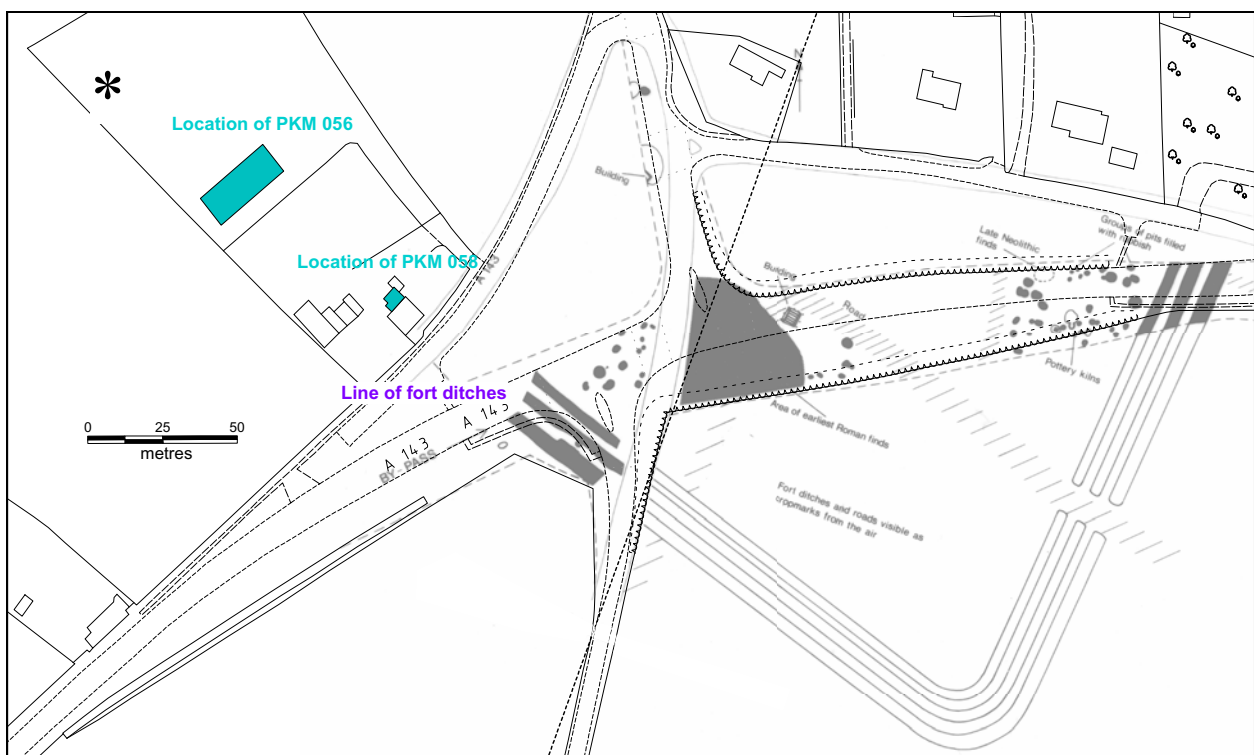
Figure 3. Plan showing nearby sites from the Suffolk HER

4. Methodology

Work excavating the footings for the extension to the existing property (PKM 058) was carried out on 10th July 2007. The footings covered an area of c. 30m² and were 0.5m wide. The footings for the boarding kennels (PKM 056) were 27m long by 11m wide and were located towards the rear of the property. This work took place on 13th July 2007. Excavation was carried out by a Kubota-type excavator, fitted with a 0.6m wide toothed bucket and was observed by an experienced archaeologist.

The exposed sections within the footings were examined to identify the presence or absence of archaeological features. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:50 and 1:20 and a plan was drawn at 1:50. Written descriptions of all deposits were recorded on SCCAS *pro forma* sheets. A colour photographic record of archaeological deposits was taken, using a high resolution (5.1 megapixels) digital camera, supplemented by black and white monochrome print photographs. All finds were collected. The natural on both sites was orange sand with occasional stones and gravel.

The site archive is kept in the main store of SCCAS at Bury St Edmunds under HER Nos. PKM 056 and 058.



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Figure 4. Plan showing the site plan of PKM 005 in relation to the sites.

5. Results

5.1. PKM 058

Monitoring of the footings for the extension (Fig. 5) identified a post-medieval pit and a series of layers of unknown provenance. Modern disturbance for existing and former footings had damaged the soil profile against the house and on the west side of the site.

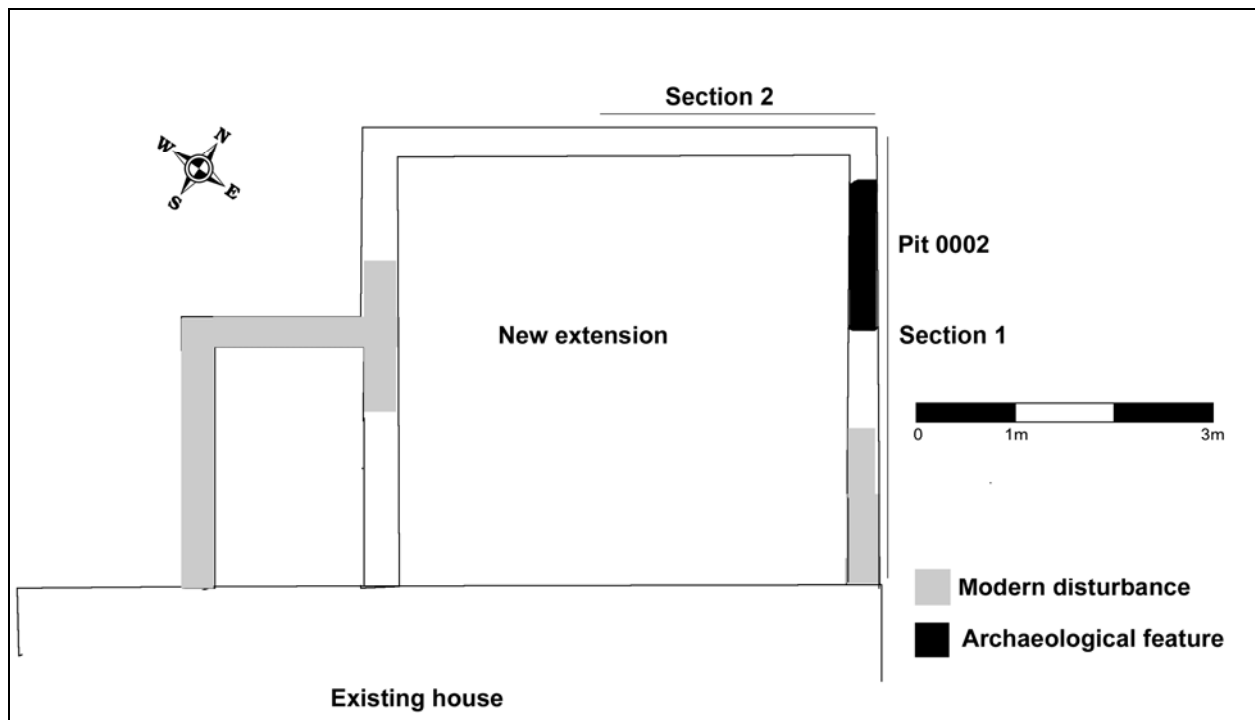


Figure 5. Location of footing trenches for site PKM 058

The footings were excavated to a depth of 1.5m and cut into the natural sands (0012), which had a slight leached appearance. The natural was encountered at a depth of between 0.5m and 0.85m and was overlain by a series of layers that pre-dated post-medieval pit 0002 .

Pit 0002 (Fig 6, Section 1) was located towards the north-west end of the footings, approximately 5m from the back wall of the existing house. It truncated layers 0005, 0006, 0007 and natural sands 0012. It had a flat-based, u-shaped profile with slightly convex upper edges and was filled by 0003, dark brown stony, silty loam up to 0.85m deep. Two fragments of post-medieval pottery were recovered from the fill.

At the base of the soil profile was layer 0007, a mineralised dark orange brown sand. It was 0.65m thick, becoming shallower and more uneven towards the west (Fig. 6, Section 2) and contained no finds. The base of this layer was irregular forming two shallow depressions, but the edges of these were not well defined and it was unclear whether these could have been shallow features, irregularities in the natural soil profile or possibly caused by the presence of a larger feature in the immediate vicinity (i.e. at the edge of a large ditch).

Two deposits 0006 and 0005 were seen to overlie 0007. Although it was not possible to prove that they were the same layer, they both comprised pale yellow brown silt and

were truncated by post-medieval pit 0002. Layer 0006 was no more than 0.3m thick and 0005 was no more than 0.25m thick – neither contained pottery or other artefacts.

The uppermost and latest deposit in this sequence was topsoil 0009. It comprised brown loam with occasional brick fragments and was up to 0.65m thick.

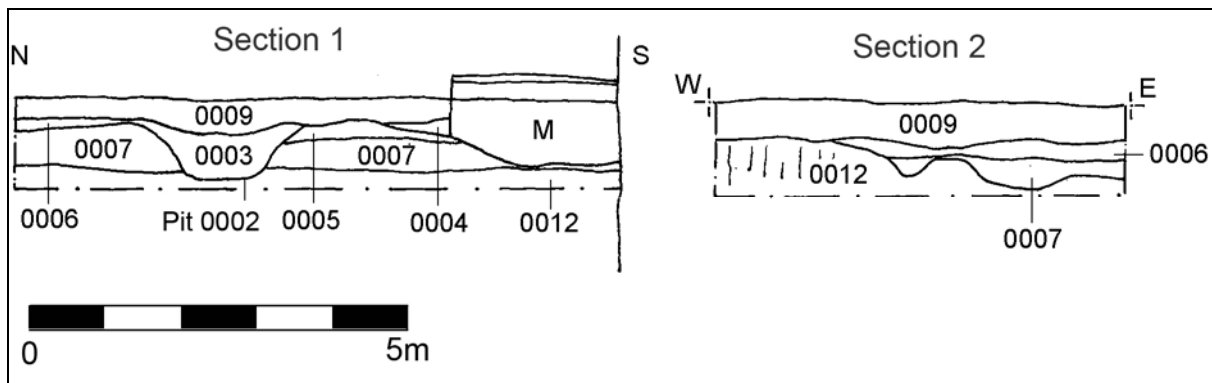


Figure 6. PKM 058 Sections

Discussion

The only feature identified during this monitoring was a post-medieval pit containing a large fragment of a 17th-18th century that may have been a bread crock. Most of the west side of the site was disturbed but the northern footing showed an unusual soil profile with a mineralised sand layer with irregular base. This did not look like a cut feature, but at the same time, was not characteristic of a purely natural phenomenon otherwise. The south-west side of the nearby Roman fort could be close to this area and it is possible that this deposit is the result of the presence of a substantial nearby feature, causing some distortion (perhaps compression due to human/animal activity) of the adjacent subsoil surface, and changes to the nature of the soil due to water run-off or movement, or the addition of deposits into the topsoil as a result of the traverse of humans and animals. It is therefore possible, if unproven, that the soil of layer 0007 indicates the presence of features beyond the small area of this monitoring, and that this could relate to Roman activity.

5.2. PKM 056

Monitoring of the footings for the boarding kennels identified a number of features (Fig. 7) and soil layers and although most of the features could not be individually dated, Roman finds were recovered from throughout the excavations.

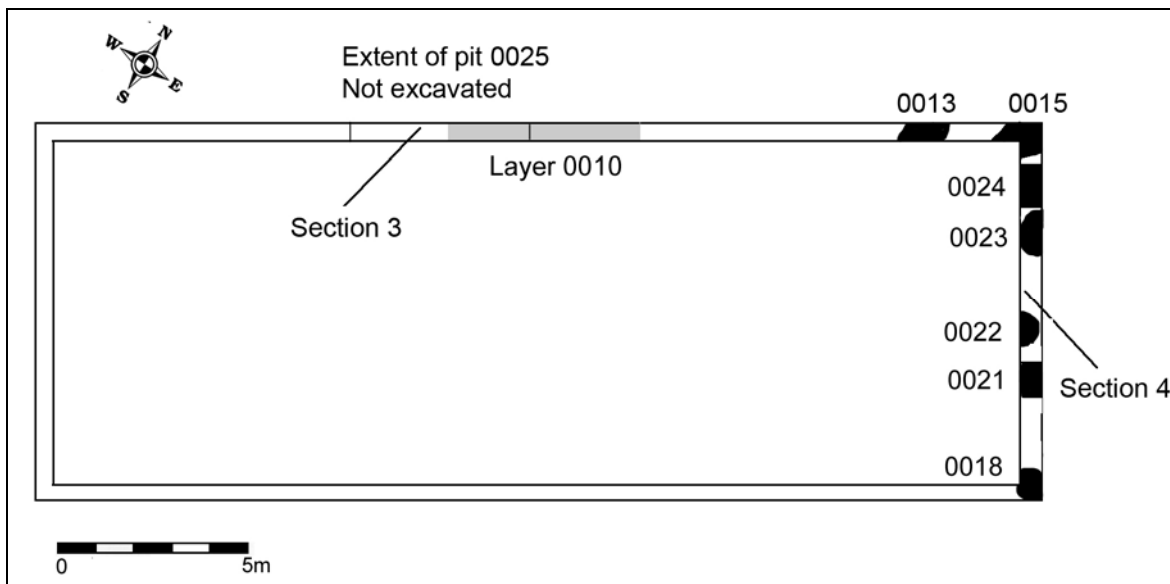


Figure 7. Plan of site PKM 056

The underlying natural was encountered 0.65m below the present ground level. A layer of topsoil, 0005, which was 0.4m to 0.55m thick containing pottery, CBM fragments and mortar covered the whole site. Below this was a layer of very dark brown sand, 0011, up to 0.45m thick and which varied slightly across the development and was therefore divided into three sections, numbered 0006, 0009 and 0011. This filled several of the underlying features. Finds were recovered from 0009 only and consisted of late 1st to 2nd century pottery and a fragment of lava quern. At the base of the soil profile and overlying the natural was layer 0012, a grey brown silty sand up to 0.35m thick. It contained a lens of 0.3m thick mixed crushed chalk and pea grit (0010), which was seen roughly 12m to 16m from the west end of the north footing trench. This layer was also recorded as 0007 and 0008 as it changed slightly along the length of the footings trench. Layer 0007 lay at the west end of the trench where it comprised brown gravelly sand and was 0.25m thick; at approximately 3m from the west end it changed to brown silt, 0008, and became slightly thicker (no more than 0.4m). At this point, a pit, 0025, which was almost 4.5m wide could be seen at the base of the trench. Above this soil layer 0008 contained more animal bone and included crushed chalk layer 0010, however the cut of 0025 within 0008 could not be identified. This feature was not excavated as it lay largely below the base of the footing trench. The coincidence of 0010 with the pit location and the increase in finds from this area could indicate that this may be either a slumped deposit or fill in the top of pit 0025, although no clear edges other than for 0010 could be defined.

A sherd of later Iron Age pottery, oyster shell and a puddingstone quern fragment (0020) were also recovered from layer 0008 and a fragment of post-medieval CBM from 0012. This could be seen to be cut by most of the features in both the northern and eastern footing trenches.

Truncating 0012 in the northern footing were two small features, both located near the eastern end of the north footing trench (Fig. 8, Section 3). Feature 0013 was located approximately 2.5m from the east end of the trench and was 0.25m deep with a flat-based, slightly uneven profile. It contained one fill, 0014, which was very similar to overlying layer 0011. This is also the case for 0015 (fill 0016), which was located at the east end of the trench. 0015 was less symmetrical than 0013 and slightly shallower at 0.2m deep. Both pottery and animal bone were recovered from ditch 0016 – the pottery has been spot-dated to no earlier than the 2nd century.

Visible only in the east footing trench sections were five features 0018, 0021, 0022, 0023 and 0024 (Fig. 8, Section 4). All appeared to be filled by the dark brown layer, 0011, which was slightly darker over the features. These were mostly similar in appearance with 0018, 0021, 0022 and 0023 having steep-sided profiles (all were deeper than the trench) and between 1m and 1.25m wide. 0024 was 1.25m wide by 0.3m deep with a flat-based u-shaped, shallow profile. Overlying 0011, in the centre of the eastern footing trench was a layer, 0019 (Fig. 8, Section 4), darker and more charcoal rich than 0011 and the fills of the features. This seemed to be present where the features were most concentrated and may have indicated an increase in occupation debris and organic matter within layer 0011 due to the presence of the features.

Discussion

This monitoring identified nine cut features of which eight were contained within the eastern part of the excavations. Whilst feature 0025 could be identified as a probable pit, the nature of the remaining features at the east end is unclear. Features 0013 and 0015 looked to be ditches, perhaps on a N-S alignment, but it was not possible to confidently establish this in such a small area. Features 0022 and 0023 looked like pits as 0022 did not appear in the opposing section and 0023 was narrower in the east-facing section than the west. 0021 and 0024 looked to be ditches on either an E-W or NE-SW alignment, but 0018 was difficult to determine and could have been either a NW-SE aligned ditch or pit. None of these could be seen in any other trenches,

although if 0013 and 0015 were N-S aligned these should have been visible in the southern footing trench. Overlying these was a layer of very dark sand, containing occupation deposits. At the base of the profile was a layer of pale sand which was cut by all the features. The majority of the finds were Roman, although a large sherd of later Iron Age pottery was recovered, its size suggesting that it had not been repeatedly moved from its original location. Some post-medieval finds were recovered from the topsoil and this may be the source of the single post-medieval fragment of CBM that was recovered from the bottom layer 0012. This site lies within an area from where Roman finds and features have been recovered from all around this development. To the east and the south of the site is urban Roman occupation, and on a small scale it is interesting to note that in this excavation the intense occupation lies at the east end with few features visible in the western half. Whilst it is difficult to draw any confident conclusions from such limited work, it may be that this site actually lies at the edge of the Roman town and the more intense area of features represents this edge. Whilst no substantial ditches comparable to those found in the PKM 005 excavations (Plouviez in prep) were identified, the ditches found here could represent an extension, perhaps a re-cut boundary, from the south-western corner of the enclosure. The earliest pottery from the monitoring, e.g. the stamped Samian cup from South Gaul, could relate to military activity on the PKM 005 site in the 60's, but some of the features from this site were in use and backfilled during the longer, later period of civilian activity and most of the pottery recovered from the monitoring was contemporary with this occupation.

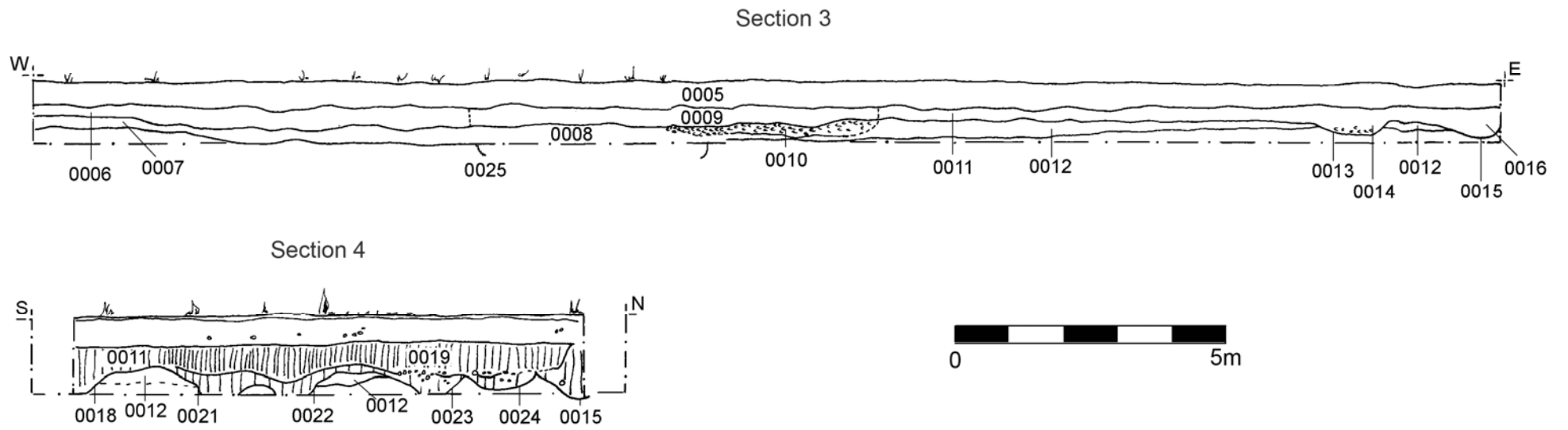


Figure 8. PKM 056 sections

6. Finds and Environmental Evidence

Richenda Goffin and Cathy Tester

6.1 PKM 058

Introduction

Finds were collected from one context, as shown in the table below.

Context	Pottery		Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	
0003	2	1229	L17th-18th C
Total	2	1229	

Table 1. Pottery quantification, including spot date

Pottery

Two fragments of post-medieval pottery were recovered in total (1.229kg). Part of the flat base of a large Speckle-glazed ware vessel (diameter 290mm) was identified, dating to the late 17th to 18th centuries. None of the upper part of the vessel survives, but it was probably a large crock such as a breadpot, rather than a horticultural container. A single fragment of Glazed red earthenware was also present, dating to the 16th-18th century.

6.2 PKM 056

Cathy Tester

Introduction

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

Context	Pottery		Animal bone		CBM		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
	No	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g		
0001	4	34	3	48			Flint (1-10g); Bt stone (1-576g)	PMed, Rom
0002	13	156	4	78	6	169	Fired clay (1-5g)	PMed, Rom
0003	8	122	4	56	3	14		PMed, Rom
0004	1	1			4	15	Mortar (1-13g)	PMed, Rom
0005	3	54			1	22	Clay pipe (1-6g)	PMed,
0008	1	310	10	48			Oyster (1-3g)	Iron Age
0009	4	95					Lava quern (2-2123g)	LC1-C2
0012					1	137		PMed
0016	2	13	3	87				C2+
0017	1	19	1	13	1	33		PMed, Rom
0019	2	86						Rom
0020							Puddingstone quern (1-2705g)	LIA-ERom
Total	39	890	25	330	16	390		

Table 2. Finds quantities

Pottery

A total of 39 sherds of pottery, nearly all of which was Roman, was collected from ten contexts during the monitoring. The quantities by fabric and period are summarised in the table below and the full catalogue by context is in Appendix 3.

Fabric	Code	No	% No	Wt/g	% Wt
Hand-made sand tempered	HMS	1	2.6	310	34.8
<i>Total prehistoric wares</i>		<i>1</i>	<i>2.6</i>	<i>310</i>	<i>34.8</i>
Black burnished ware Category 1	BB1	1	2.6	8	0.9
Black-surfaced ware	BSW	2	5.1	13	1.5
Micaceous grey wares (black-surfaced)	GMB	12	30.8	184	20.7
Micaceous grey wares (grey-surfaced)	GMG	15	38.5	226	25.4
Miscellaneous sandy grey wares	GX	3	7.7	10	1.1
Pakenham colour-coated wares	PKC	1	2.6	21	2.4
South Gaulish samian	SASG	2	5.1	69	7.8
<i>Total Roman wares</i>		<i>36</i>	<i>92.3</i>	<i>531</i>	<i>59.7</i>
Glazed red earthenware	GRE	1	2.6	23	2.6
Post-medieval red ware	PMRW	1	2.6	26	2.9
<i>Total post-medieval wares</i>		<i>2</i>	<i>5.1</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>5.5</i>
Total pottery		39	100.0	890	100.0

Table 3. Pottery fabric quantities by period.

Methodology

The pottery was quantified by count and weight. The hand-made prehistoric fabric was distinguished by its main visible inclusions. Roman and post-Roman fabric codes were assigned from the Suffolk Roman and post-Roman fabric series. Details of fabric, form and form element were recorded and decoration and surface treatment were also noted. A x10 binocular microscope was used to identify the fabrics. Each 'sherd family' was given a separate entry on the database table and an individual spotdate when possible. SCCAS pottery recording forms were used and the data has been input onto an Access database table.

Prehistoric pottery

A flat base from a large hand-made sand-tempered (HMS) coarse jar was recovered from layer 0008. It has a grey-brown surface and dark grey core, frequent opaque white quartz and some natural flint inclusions. Although only a small part of the external wall surface is present, it appears to have the beginnings of scored or scratched decoration which along with the sand-tempered fabric, is characteristic of later Iron Age pottery.

Roman pottery

Thirty-two sherds of Roman pottery which range in date from the mid 1st to mid 2nd or 3rd century AD were collected from nine contexts. Seven fabrics or fabric groups were identified which include imported, local and regional and provincially-traded finewares and coarsewares.

Imports and provincially-traded wares

Imported finewares are represented by two sherds of South Gaulish samian (SASG) recovered from two contexts. One is a basal floor sherd of a cup from subsoil layer 0002 which has part of a maker's stamp which reads ". . F C O . . ." (OFCOTTO), for Cotto of La Graufesenque (AD 60-85). A base and floor sherd from a Dr 30 decorated bowl is probably Flavian and was collected from layer 0009.

The only provincially-traded ware is a Black burnished ware (BB1) dish base from ditch 0016 which is mid 2nd century or later.

Local and regional wares

Pakenham colour-coated ware (PKC) is the only fineware recorded. A small beaker base (27mm diameter with 100% of circumference present) made in an orange sandy fabric may come from kilns close by at Grimstone End (PKM 028) or the 1985 Ixworth By-pass excavation site (PKM 005) which had kilns producing wares of this type.

Two Black surfaced ware (BSW) bodysherds, one early and one later were found in layer 0002. The first appears to be hand-made and wheel-finished, possibly early or mid 1st century. The second is from a straight-sided dish which cannot be certainly identified without the rim, but is at least 2nd century or later.

Grey micaceous wares in the black (GMB) and grey-surfaced (GMG) variants together account for 75% of the count and 77.2% of the Roman pottery weight. All GM sherds are made in a fine sandy fabric with few inclusions apart from abundant fine mica and are thought to come from kilns in the Wattisfield area nearby (less than 10 miles away). These wares typically dominate pottery assemblages in the north and north-west of the county.

GMB forms identified include uncertain jar sherds and dish sherds which are 2nd century or later. GMG includes two uncertain jars and the rest of the sherds are non-diagnostic bodysherds, many of them abraded.

Three small and abraded sandy grey ware (GX) sherds were found. Two are non-diagnostic bodysherds and the other is a lid rim, too small to measure.

Post-Roman pottery

Two sherds of post-medieval red earthenware pottery were collected from topsoil layer 0005. The first is a glazed red earthenware (GRE) bodysherd with a 16th-18th century date and the other is a post-medieval red ware sherd (PMRW) of a similar date.

Ceramic building material and fired clay

Sixteen fragments of CBM weighing 390g were collected from six contexts. They consist of one possible Roman brick or tile fragment (0002) made in a dense orange-red sandy fabric and fifteen post-medieval roof tile fragments. The roof tiles are made in hard red-fired medium sandy fabrics with ferrous and occasional flint inclusions.

A small and very abraded fragment (5g) of fired clay in an orange fabric with buff clay pellets was collected from layer 0002.

Miscellaneous

Quernstones

The top stone of a Hertfordshire puddingstone quern was unstratified in the area of layer 0008 (0020). The outside diameter is unmeasurable because the outer edge was completely broken off, probably during subsequent re-use and deposition. The central 'hopper' has a diameter of c. 40mm at the grinding surface and c. 70mm at the top. The maximum height at the centre is 100mm. These querns are thought to date from the very latest Iron Age or early Roman period, from possibly the first quarter to the end of the 1st century AD (Major 2004).

Two joining fragments from the upper stone of a hand-operated Rhenish lavastone rotary quern were recovered from layer 0009. The quern has a low kerb around the outer edge, a diameter of 360mm (38% of outer circumference present) and a thickness of 53mm at the edge. The surfaces are too abraded to record dressing but the grinding surface has been obviously worn through use.

Flint (identified by Colin Pendleton)

A crude small oval scraper of Bronze Age date which appears to have been made from an already 'battered' flint, possibly a hammerstone, was unstratified (0001).

Burnt stone

A broken fragment (576g) of fire-reddened limestone was unstratified (0001).

Clay pipe

A clay tobacco pipe stem fragment was collected from topsoil layer 0005.

Animal bone and shell

Twenty-five fragments of animal bone (330g) were collected. The species identified include cattle, sheep and pig as well as large and medium mammal bones which could not be identified to species. The material was collected from six contexts, three subsoil layers (0002, 0003 0008), a ditch (0016) and two unstratified (0001 and 0017). The animal bone is undatable and was found within deposits of mixed Roman and post-medieval dated finds and could belong to either period.

A single fragment of oyster shell was collected from layer 0008.

6.3 Discussion of the finds and environmental evidence

The site is located within an area of considerable Roman activity (see Brief and Specification, Appendix 1, section 1.2) and lies within 300m of the 1985 Ixworth By-pass excavation site (PKM 005). Finds of prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval date were collected from twelve contexts, only two of which were from cut features. Seven contexts were 'open features', soil layers and deposits and three were unstratified. The cut features, a ditch and a pit, produced two sherds of Roman pottery each which is not particularly good dating evidence. The open features produced mixed period finds some of which had been through a long deposition cycle. The majority of the finds are Roman and consist mainly of pottery.

The earliest finds are prehistoric but the amounts are negligible, consisting of a single Bronze Age struck flint and a single Later Iron Age coarse jar base.

The Roman pottery assemblage ranges in date from the Late Iron Age or early Roman period to possibly the 3rd century. None of the forms or fabrics that characterise the latest Roman period are present in this collection which includes imported finewares, provincially-traded wares and local and regional wares. The majority of this material consists of grey micaceous wares, probably from kilns in the Wattisfield area and also

includes a sherd of Pakenham colour-coated ware from nearby kilns at PKM 005 or PKM 028.

Other Roman finds include two stones from two hand-operated rotary querns, one made of Hertfordshire puddingstone which could be contemporary with the earliest pottery and a kerbed Rhenish lavastone quern. A fragment of Roman CBM was also found.

The animal bone remains are in good condition and probably represent domestic waste but are undatable as they are mainly present in groups with mixed dates that include Roman and post-medieval material.

Later finds include small amounts of post-medieval pottery, roof tile and clay tobacco pipe fragments.

7. Conclusions and significance of the fieldwork

These two monitorings produced quite different results with PKM 056, in the field behind the house producing a number of features, soil layers and finds dating predominantly to the Roman period, and PKM 058 a single post-medieval pit

Whilst the Roman features tie in closely with the results of other archaeological work in this area it is difficult to interpret their nature and function within the landscape because they were seen in such a confined area – the footings trenches were only 0.5m wide. However it is interesting to note the density of features in the kennels footing trench as often this can imply the proximity of settlement and this concentration on the line of and aligned with the known fort ditches and to the west of the Roman town may indicate that the edge of the town falls within the area of this monitoring.

This part of Ixworth and Pakenham form one of the most important areas of Roman archaeology in Suffolk, lying on one of the major north-south Roman Roads, and this monitoring has contributed to an understanding of the nature of the Roman activity to the north and west of the known settlement, indeed it may have identified the edge of the town.

The results of this monitoring should be considered in any future synthetic study of the Roman occupation of Ixworth and Pakenham.

8. Archive deposition

Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds archive store

Digital archive: T:arc\archive field projects\Pakenham\PKM 056 and 058

Finds and environmental archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds finds store

9. List of contributors and acknowledgements

This project was funded by Mr and Mrs Babington and the work was carried out in accordance with a Brief and Specification prepared by Dr. Jess Tipper (SCCAS, Conservation Team (Appendix 1) in order to fulfil the requirements of the planning applications (SE07/0492 and SE/07/0775).

The fieldwork was carried out and the project managed by Jo Caruth from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

Finds processing was carried out by Gemma Adams and the specialist finds report was produced by Cathy Tester, with Richenda Goffin. Other specialist identification and advice, including Historic Environment Record data, was provided by Dr Colin Pendleton, SCCAS Conservation Team.

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

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Appendix 1

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring of Development

GEMEED, BURY ROAD, PAKENHAM, IP31 2HX

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.

1. Background

- 1.1 Planning consent (application SE/07/0492) has been granted by St Edmundsbury Borough Council for the construction of an extension at Gemeed, Bury Road, Ixworth, IP31 2HX (TL 9296 6985), with a PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition requiring an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out. Assessment of the available archaeological evidence indicates that the area affected by development can be adequately recorded by continuous archaeological monitoring.
- 1.2 This application lies in an area of archaeological importance, close to, or possibly within, the area of a Roman fort that is recorded in the County Sites and Monuments Record immediately to the west (PKM 005) and which is statutorily protected (Suffolk Scheduled Ancient 116). There is high potential for encountering Roman occupation deposits at this location. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 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 Before commencing work the project manager must carry out a risk assessment and liaise with the site owner, client and the Conservation Team of SCCAS (SCCAS/CT) in ensuring that all potential risks are minimised.
- 1.5 All arrangements for the excavation 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 by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.

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 Roman occupation remains on the site.
- 2.3 The significant archaeologically damaging activity in this proposal is the excavation of the footing trenches (c. 23m of trenching) for the extension, and also any topsoil stripping required for the floor slab. These, and the upcast soil, are to be closely monitored during and after they have been excavated by the building contractor. Adequate time is to be allowed for archaeological 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 SCCAS/CT - see 1.3 above.
- 3.2 The developer or his archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT 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 SCCAS/CT 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 archaeologist to allow archaeological monitoring of building and engineering operations which disturb the ground.
- 4.2 Opportunity must be given to the contracted archaeologist to hand excavate any discrete archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations, retrieve finds and make measured records as necessary. Where it is necessary to see archaeological detail one of the soil faces is to be trowelled clean.
- 4.3 All archaeological features exposed must be planned at a minimum scale of 1:50 on a plan showing the proposed layout of the development.
- 4.4 A photographic record of the work is to be made of any archaeological features, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies/high resolution digital images.
- 4.5 All contexts must be numbered and finds recorded by context. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum.

- 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 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed with SCCAS/CT during the course of the monitoring).
- 4.8 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 three months of the completion of work. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 5.2 The project manager must consult the SMR Officer to obtain an event number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.
- 5.3 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. Account must be taken of any requirements the County SMR may have regarding the conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage of excavated material and the archive.
- 5.4 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).
- 5.5 An unbound copy of the assessment report, clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and SCCAS/CT.
- 5.6 Following acceptance, two copies of the assessment report should be submitted to SCCAS/CT. A single hard copy should be presented to the county SMR as well as a digital copy of the approved report.
- 5.7 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.

- 5.8 Where appropriate, a digital vector trench plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the County Sites and Monuments Record. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.
- 5.9 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.
- 5.10 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: Dr Jess Tipper

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Date: 19 June 2007

Reference: /Gemeed-Pakenham2007

This brief and specification remains valid for six 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

PKM 056 context summary

context	feature	identifier	description	cuts	cutby	over	under
0001	0001	unstratified	US finds from kennels monitoring				
0002	0006	layer - finds	Finds recovered from upcast soil in SW corner of plot. Finds probably from 0006.				
0003	0006	layer - finds	Finds recovered from upcast soil roughly centrally along the southern footing. 0006 is becoming thinnner and paler, fewer finds recovered. Finds probably from 0006				
0004	0006	layer - finds	Finds recovered from upcast soil in NW corner of the plot. This is the area where 0006 is darkest, finds probably from 0006.				
0005	0005	topsoil	Brown silty loam with occasional chalk flecks			0006	0008
0006	0006	layer	Dark, almost black, sticky sand with Roman finds and occasional chalk flecks.			0007	0011 0005
0007	0007	layer	Brown gravelly sand with some patches of pea grit. Interface with the natural.				0006
0009	0006	layer	Layer 0006 (below topsoil) in area of 0008, numbered to locate finds.				0005
0010	0010	layer	Chalky band of fine crushed chalk and pea grit under 0005 but clearly visible in south facing section of N trench			0008	0009
0011	0006	layer	Dark brown sand with occupation debris, same as 0006 east of 0008 and present across eastern footing trench				0019 0005
0012	0012	layer	Grey-brown silty sand under 0010/001. Cut by most features, except possibly 0025			0013 0015 0021 0022	0010 0011 0016 0014
0013	0013	ditch cut	SW-NE aligned ditch	0012			0014
0014	0013	ditch fill	SW-NE aligned ditch coarse dark black sand, similar to layer 0011			0013	0005
0015	0015	ditch cut	SW-NE ditch East of 0013	0012			
0016	0015	ditch fill	(as above) SW-NE ditch East of 0013				0015 0012
0017		unstratified	Unstratified finds from upcast soil at East end				
0018	0018	pit cut	Pit at SE corner, filled with 0011				0019
0019	0019	layer	Dark brown sand, seems to be within 0011, but darker and more charcoal rich			0018	0011
0020		unstratified	Unstratified finds from area of 0008				
0008	0008	layer	Brown silt under 0005 in N trench (pot and lots of AB- most AB left in section). Similar to 0007, but siltier and better defined				0009 0010
0021		ditch	Possible ditch filled with 0011. Alignment unclear but E-W/NW-SE most likely	0012			0011
0022		pit	Filled with 0011 seen in eastern footing trench	0012			0011
0023		pit	Filled with 0011 seen in eastern footing trench	0012			0011
0024		ditch	Possible ditch filled with 0011. Alignment unclear but E-W/NW-SE most likely				0011
0025		pit	Pit seen lying at base of northern footing trench. Possibly filled with 0012, did not appear to cut it				0008

Appendix 3

Pottery catalogue (PKM 056)

OP No	Fabric	Sherd	Form	No	Wt/g	Notes	Date
0001	GMB	b	Jar	2	26		Rom
	GX	r	8 lid	1	5	Lid	Rom
	GX	b		1	3	Abraded	Rom
0002	BSW	b		1	8	Hand-made/wheel-finished?	LIA-ERom
	BSW	b	6 dish	1	5		C2+
	GMB	b		5	42	Misc bodysherds	Rom
	GMB	b	Jar	1	58	Thick jar sherd, abraded	Rom
	GMG	bba		3	20	Abraded	Rom
	PKC	ba	3 beaker	1	21	Small beaker base (27mm,100%) orange fabric	C2/3
	SASG	ba	cup	1	2	Stamped ". F C O . . ." (OFCOTTO) Cotto of La Graufesenque	60-85AD
0003	GMB	b		1	18	Abraded	Rom
	GMB	ba	6 dish	2	30		C2+
	GMG	b		3	10		Rom
	GMG	ba		1	62	Base type 3 (100%)	Rom
	GX	b		1	2	Decorated bodysherd	Rom
0004	GMG	b		1	1	Abraded	Rom
0005	GMG	b		1	5	Abraded	Rom
	GRE	b		1	23		16-18th c
	PMRW	ba		1	26		PMed
0008	HMS	ba	Jar	1	310	Large flat base grey fabric with abundant opaque white quartz & some natural flint. External surface scored	IA
0009	GMB	b		1	10		Rom
	GMG	r	Jar	1	10	Jar rim (180mm, 7%)	Rom
	GMG	r	Jar	1	8	Jar rim (160mm, 6%)	Rom
	SASG	ba	Dr 30	1	67	Base & floor	Flav
0016	BB1	ba	6 dish	1	8		C2+
	GMG	b		1	5	Abraded	Rom
0017	GMG	b		1	19		Rom
0019	GMG	b		2	86	1 round sherd (c 90x05mm) could be trimmed	Rom

(Key: b = bodysherd; ba= base sherd; r=rimsherd)