### ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

# Cliff Quay to Nacton – undergrounding of high voltage cable, Ipswich and Nacton

Suffolk C.C. Archaeological Service

© October 2008

SCCAS Report No. 2008/230

Oasis Ref. Suffolkc1-50655

### **HER** information

Planning application no: N/A

**Grid Reference:** TM 1728/4203 to TM 2150/3988

**Curatorial Officer:** William Fletcher

Project Officer: James Rolfe

Funding Body Carillion for EDF

Oasis reference: Suffolkc1-50655

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### List of abbreviations used in the text

DBA	Desk Based Assessment
HER	Historic Environment Record
PAS	Portable Antiquities Scheme
PDA	Proposed Development Area
PPG 16	Planning Policy Guidance 16
SAM	Scheduled Ancient Monument
SCCAS	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
SCCAS/CT	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service / Conservation Team
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest

#### **Summary**

Through an examination of the Suffolk HER, a documentary study, a historic map search and a site walkover, this DBA has set the PDA within its immediate archaeological landscape.

The potential for preserved archaeological deposits to be encountered along the length of the cable trench is moderate to high. Visible on aerial photographs along the route of the cable trench are a series of undated linear features, probably field boundaries and trackways that predate the earliest available cartographic records. There is a moderate to high potential for dispersed prehistoric features to be encountered especially of Bronze Age date as the cable trench passes very close to the remains of two possible burial mounds of Bronze Age date.

The cable trench runs for *c*.6km and is 0.9m deep by 1.2m deep within a working strip 5m wide. Any archaeological features present along its length will be either severely damaged or completely destroyed.

There is no known archaeological reason for refusing permission for the development in order to achieve the preservation *in situ* of archaeological remains, therefore preservation by record is recommended. This will involve the whole length of the cable trench and a 5m working area being monitored. The exception to this is a 60m length of working area and cable trench 30m either side of the ring ditch (**IPS 024**) which will have to be stripped under archaeological supervision and excavated before work commences. The length of trench that is within the A14 embankment will not need to be monitored unless the trench penetrates below the embankments formation layer.

Consultation with the County Council Planning Archaeologist should be at the earliest possible opportunity, as archaeological investigations can have considerable time and cost implications. This consultation will determine the actual programme of archaeological works that will need to be carried out, which could include full-scale excavation.

#### 1. Introduction

#### **Project Background**

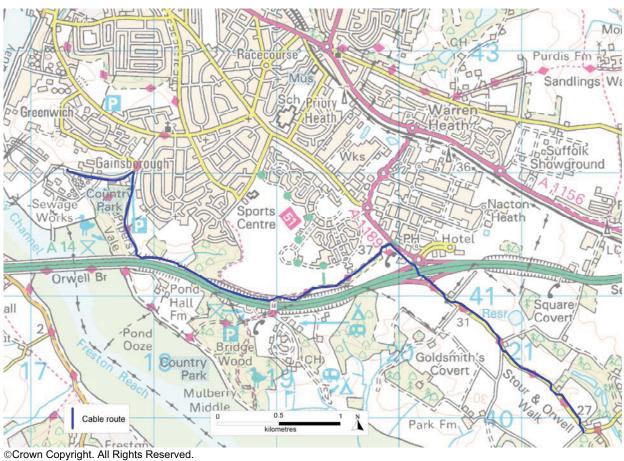
This archaeological DBA has been prepared by James Rolfe of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service for EDF Energy.

This DBA is the first stage of a programme of archaeological works to access the archaeological potential of the area disturbed by the undergrounding of a high voltage cable.

#### Site description

The subject of this DBA covers a length of *c*. 6km from TM 1728 4203 to TM 2150 3988 through the parishes of Ipswich St Clements and Nacton (Fig. 1).

The present land use varies between woodland, arable and set-aside.



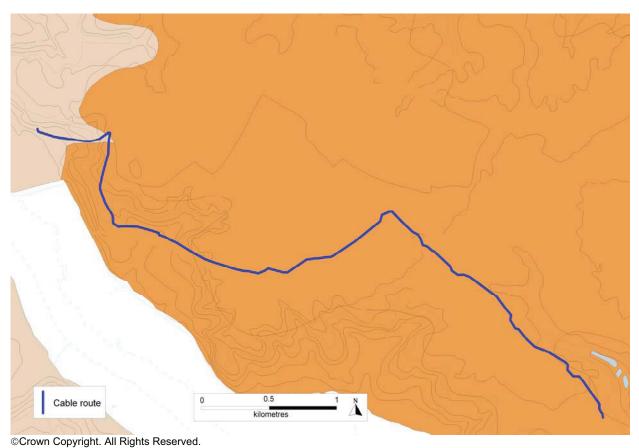
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Figure 1. Cable trench location

#### Geology and topography

The PDA is a c. 6km long corridor located to the north of the River Orwell. It is mostly on the high ground (c. 30m above sea level) overlooking the river valley with a small length at the north west end running along the valley side (Fig. 2).

The majority of the PDA is on deep well-drained sandy soils, except for the extreme western edge which is deep well-drained fine - coarse loamy and sandy soils, locally flinty in places over gravel (Ordnance Survey 1983) (Fig. 2).



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Figure 2. Geology and topography

#### Scope of this report

In order to set the PDA in its archaeological context a study area of *c.* 100m either side of the proposed cable route was selected for examination (Fig. 3).

In accordance with PPG16, the Government's guidance on archaeology and planning, (<a href="www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/planningpolicyguidance9">www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/planningpolicyguidance9</a>) and based on a SCCAS/CT specification, this assessment examines the available archaeological sources. These include the Suffolk HER, reports of any archaeological investigations, all readily available cartographic and documentary sources, an aerial photographic survey and a site walkover.

#### **Aims**

To determine as far as reasonably practicable from the existing records, the previous landuse, the nature of the archaeological resource and the potential resource within the PDA.

#### **Methods**

The methodology involved interrogating the following sources of data to meet the aims of this DBA.

- A search of the Suffolk HER for any records within *c.* 100m from the route of the pipeline. The results are described and mapped in the main body of the report, Section 2.
- An examination of the literature with reference to archaeological excavations within the study area.
- An assessment of all cartographic sources relevant to the PDA to identify historic land-use, the siting of old boundaries and earlier buildings, Section 2.
- The aerial photographic survey of the data held with SCCAS.
- An examination of the metal detecting and field-walking survey data recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) database.
- Site walkovers were conducted in September and October 2008.

#### Legislative frameworks

PPG 16 (November 1990) provides guidance for planning authorities, developers and others in the investigation of archaeological remains. This guidance advises developers to discuss their plans, preferably at a pre planning stage, with the County Archaeological Planning Officer for any possible archaeological constraints on their development proposal. The planning guidance sets out to protect nationally and locally important monuments and their settings. Identified in this report is a potentially regionally important monument **IPS 024**, the remains of a possible Bronze Age burial mound. There will be a presumption in favour of preservation *in situ* of important remains. In certain circumstances field evaluation will be carried out to enable an informed decision to be made. On sites where there is no overriding case for preservation *in situ* provision will be made for their recording and excavation prior to development.

The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act of 1979 statutorily protects Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs) and their settings as nationally important sites. There are no SAMs within 1 km of this PDA.

Listed buildings are protected under the Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act of 1990. This ensures that listed buildings are given statutory protection against unauthorised demolition, alteration and extension. Buildings are listed because they are of special architectural importance, due to their architectural design, decoration and craftsmanship; also because they are of historical interest. This includes

buildings that illustrate important aspects of the nation's social, economic, cultural or military history or have a close association with nationally important persons or events. There are no listed buildings that will be affected by this development.

A Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is an area that has been notified as being of special interest under the Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981, due to its flora, fauna or geological or geomorphological features. There is one SSSI's within 1km of this PDA, the Orwell estuary.

#### 2. Results

#### Suffolk HER search (Fig.3)

The HER only represents the archaeological material that has been reported (Fig. 3), this is the 'known' resource. It is not therefore, a complete reflection of the whole archaeological resource of this area because other sites may remain undiscovered, this is considered as the 'potential' resource.

# All known archaeological sites along the proposed underground cable route

Along the proposed route of the underground cable trench are nine entries in the HER for known archaeological sites. In the area that used to be Ipswich Airport an archaeological evaluation was carried out prior to its redevelopment. Along the proposed cable route various archaeological features were encountered. IPS 024 is a cropmark of a ring ditch, which is probably a ploughed out Bronze Age burial mound. On the eastern side of Nacton Road is a probable burial mound IPS 417 marked on Hodskinson's map of 1783. IPS 420 represents various dispersed prehistoric features including a hearth, pits and ditches. At IPS 390 a concentration of Roman features were discovered including pits, post holes, ditches, hearths and possible cremations, also a single Middle Saxon ditch was also found. NAC 045 is a series of undated cropmarks that show a rectangular enclosure, linear features and a trackway. At NAC 046 cropmarks appear to show field systems, that are thought to be post medieval in date. At NAC 083 undated cropmarks appear to show a trackway and linear ditches. At IPS 434 aerial photographs show an area of military activity including a pillbox, barbed wire obstruction, trenches and possible gun emplacement. IPS 262 is an area of ancient woodland with possible earthwork banks. Eight test pits dug on behalf of EDF energy were monitored by SCCAS (IPS **599**), but no archaeological features identified.

# All known archaeological sites within 100m of the proposed underground cable route

#### Prehistoric (500,000BC-42AD)

The earliest archaeological material found within the search area dates to the Bronze Age (2350-701BC). As well as the burial mound and features mentioned above, another burial mound **IPS 027** is located just to the south west of the proposed cable route. A little further south on west side of Nacton Road opposite **IPS 417** is **IPS 416**, another possible burial mound marked on Hodskinson's map of 1783. At **IPS 069** a flint arrowhead was found on a footpath and at **NAC 029** a fragment of a bronze socketed axe was found metal detecting.

At NAC 027 a gold Iron Age (700BC-42AD) coin was found metal detecting.

Unspecific late prehistoric (4000BC-42AD) finds and features were identified at **IPS 239**, prior to the development of a hotel. At **IPS 028**, aerial photographs show a rectilinear enclosure, field systems and a possible trackway.

#### Roman (43-409AD)

At **IPS 088**, a Roman brooch was found metal detecting and at **NAC 031** a Roman coin was found.

#### Medieval (1066-1539)

At **MSF2283** a strap end was found metal detecting and at **MSF12353** a lead brooch was found.

#### Post medieval (1540-1900)

At **IPS 424**, aerial photographs show probable post medieval field boundaries.

#### Modern (1900 – present)

Three entries date to the modern period and all relate to World War II. **IPS 427** is a series of anti-invasion defences surrounding Ipswich airfield. At **NAC 041**, is a military camp visible on aerial photographs. At **NAC 082**, is a possible aircraft obstruction feature.

#### Aerial photographic survey

The area of the underground cable route was part of a national aerial photographic mapping project that plotted soil and cropmarks (Fig 4).

South of the A14 the cable trench passes through numerous linear cropmarks, probably field boundaries and trackways. All of these features are undated but predate the earliest maps of this area available (1807 Nacton enclosure map).

To the north of the A14 the cable trench passes close to a concentric ring ditch (**IPS 027**).

#### Historic map search

There is very little change in field boundaries and land use along the route of the cable trench from the earliest available maps prior to the creation of the Ipswich Airport in 1929/30, the construction of the Gainsborough housing development in the 1930's and some field enlargements post 1945 and then the construction of the A14 bypass in 1980's (Figs. 5-12).

#### Site walkover

Various site visits have been made by members of SCCAS during September and October 2008.

During the site visit to clarify the location of the ring ditch (**IPS 024**), it was noted that three ditches had been dug at the location of the ring ditch to prevent unauthorised access to the land.

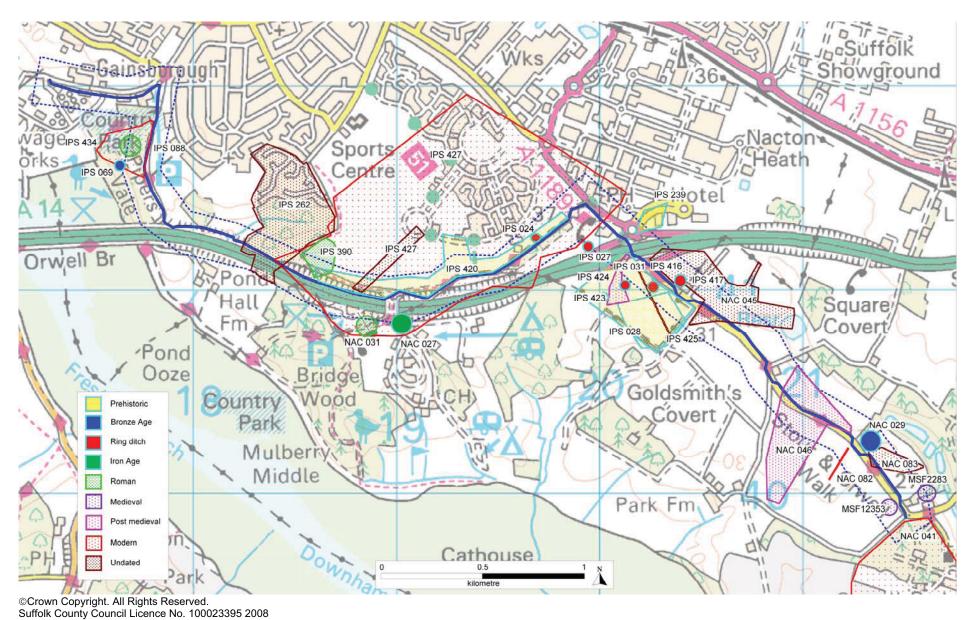


Figure 3. HER entries within the 100m search area

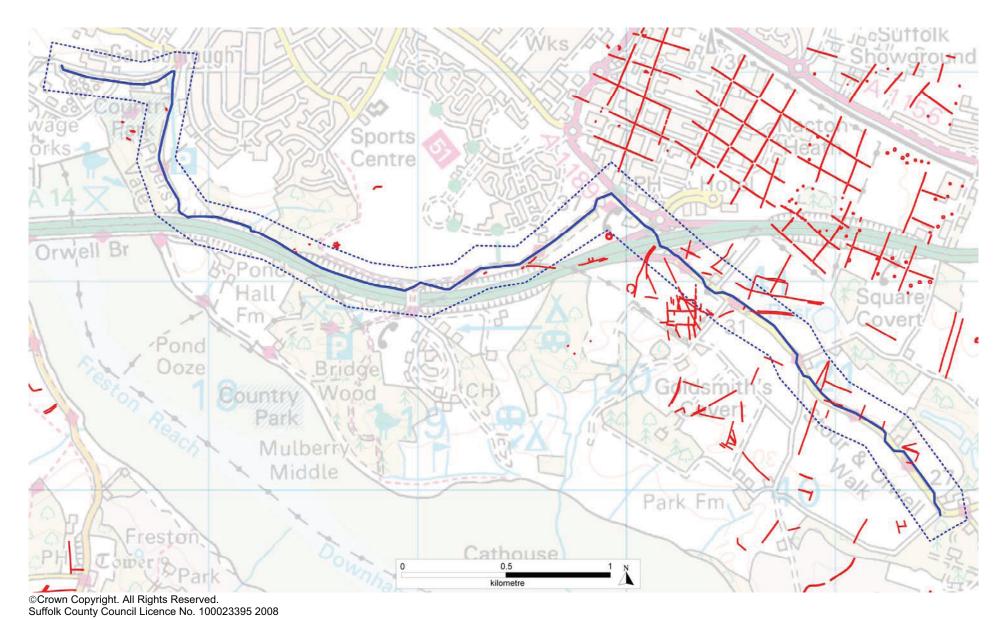
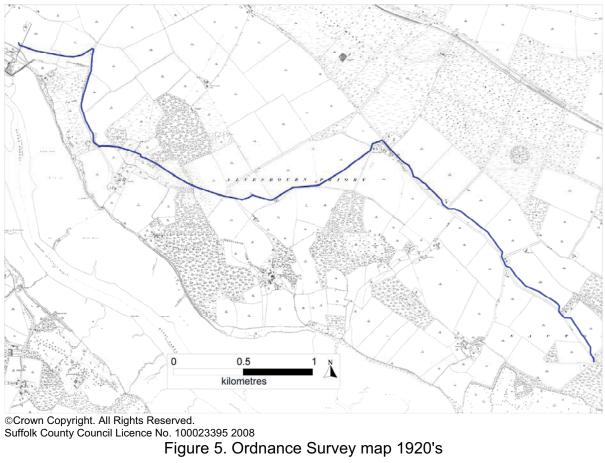
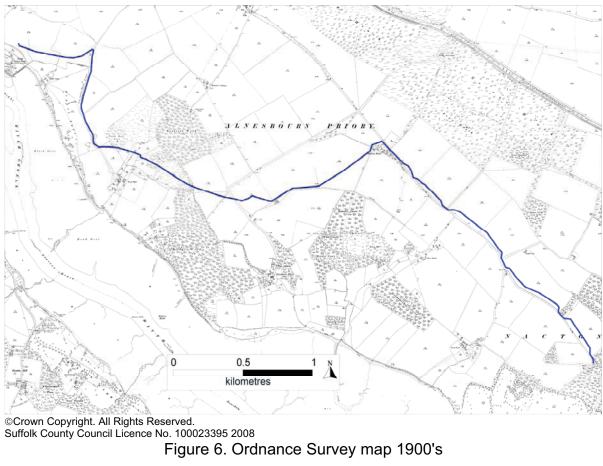


Figure 4. Aerial photographic plots





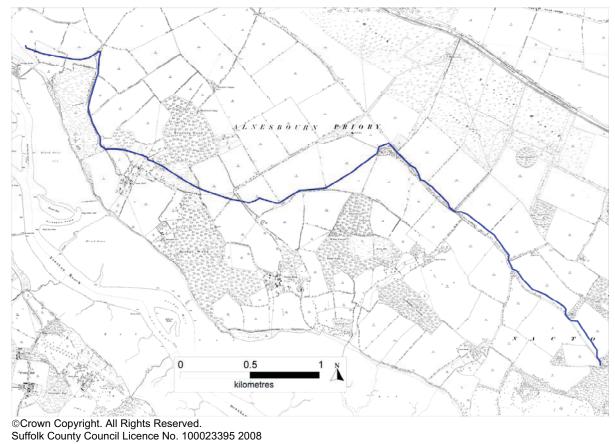
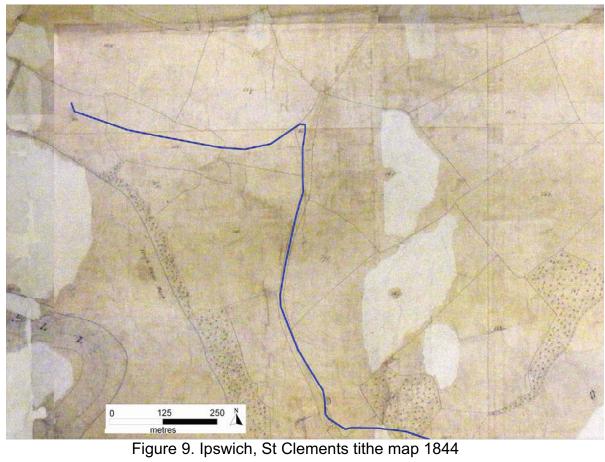


Figure 7. Ordnance Survey map 1880's



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Figure 8. Location of tithe maps



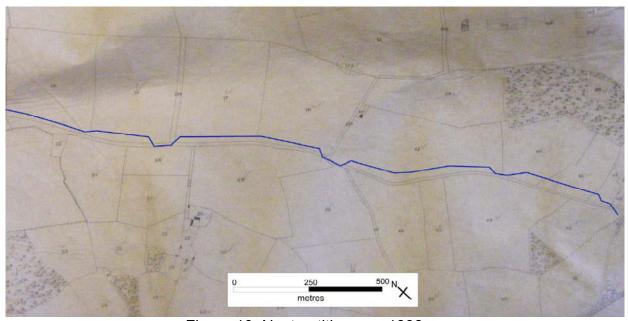


Figure 10. Nacton tithe map 1838

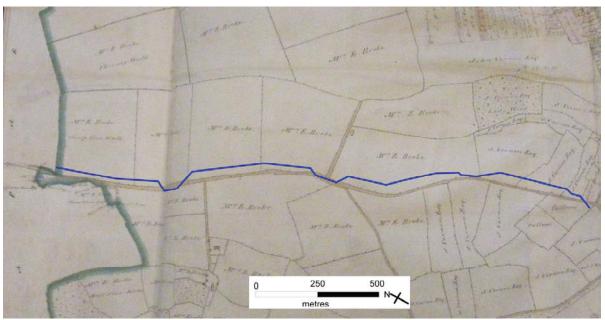


Figure 11. Nacton enclosure map of 1807

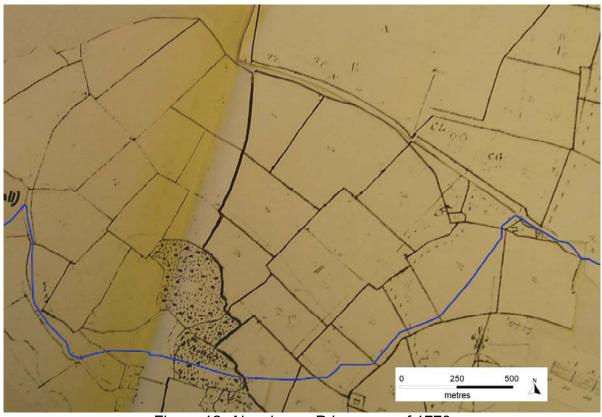


Figure 12. Alnesbourn Priory map of 1770

#### 3. Assessment of impacts and effects

#### The archaeological potential of the PDA

Based on the previous work carried out at the Ipswich Airport site, the archaeological potential for the length of cable trench to the north of the A14 is moderate to high. In the area to the south of **IPS 390** there is the potential for further Roman archaeology to be present and there may also be a continuation of the Saxon ditch which was seen in **IPS 390**. Along the rest of the cable trench route north of the A14 there is the potential to encounter further dispersed prehistoric features, especially close to the ring ditch (**IPS 024** (Fig.13)).

Along the route of the cable trench to the south of the A14 there are numerous cropmarks of unknown date visible on aerial photographs. These features appear to be either field boundaries or trackways. Also along this stretch of the cable trench there is the potential for encountering dispersed prehistoric or Roman archaeology features. The archaeological potential for the length of cable trench to the south of the A14 is moderate to high.

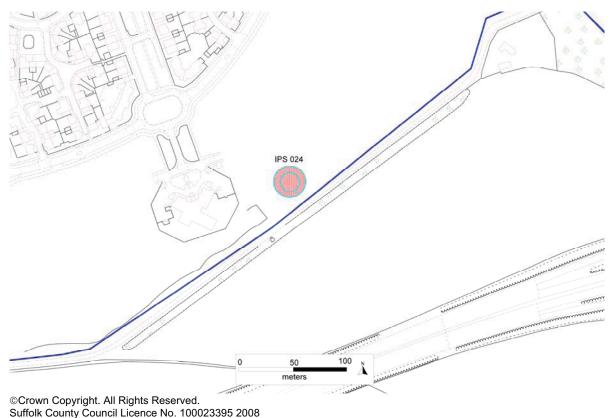


Figure 13. Location of ring ditch IPS 024

# Assessment of the impact of the development on the archaeological resource

A 5m wide working area will be stripped and a cable trench 0.9m deep by 1.2m wide will be excavated. On the 5m wide working strip, any archaeology present will be damaged and destroyed if the features are shallow. Any archaeological features that the actual cable trench runs through will be severely damaged or destroyed.

#### 4. Mitigation measures

#### The PDA

Each length of the working area should be monitored after it has been stripped to enable the excavation and recording of any archaeological features present. At the location of the ring ditch (**IPS 024**) a 60 m length of the proposed working area 30m to the east and west of the ring ditch should be stripped under archaeological supervision and any archaeological features excavated and recorded. The length of trench that is within the A14 embankment will not need to be monitored unless the trench penetrates below the embankments formation layer.

#### 5. Conclusions / Recommendations

Through an examination of the Suffolk HER, a documentary study, a historic map search and a site walkover, this DBA has set the PDA within its immediate archaeological landscape.

The potential for preserved archaeological deposits to be encountered along the length of the cable trench is moderate to high.

The cable trench runs for *c*.6km and is 0.9m deep by 1.2m deep within a working strip 5m wide. Any archaeological features present along its length will be either severely damaged or completely destroyed. There is no known archaeological reason for refusing permission for the development in order to achieve preservation *in situ*, therefore preservation by record is recommended. This will involve the whole length of the cable trench and 5m working area being monitored. The exception to this is a 60m length of working area and cable trench 30m either side of the ring ditch (**IPS 024**) which will have to be stripped under archaeological supervision and excavated before work commences. The length of trench that is within the A14 embankment will not need to be monitored unless the trench penetrates below the embankments formation layer.

Consultation with the County Council Planning Archaeologist should be at the earliest possible opportunity, as archaeological investigations can have considerable time and cost implications. This consultation will determine the actual programme of archaeological works that will need to be carried out, which could include full-scale excavation.

#### 6. List of contributors and Acknowledgements

This project was funded and commissioned by EDF Energy.

The desk based assessment was carried out by James Rolfe, of SCCAS.

The project was managed by John Newman, Contracts Manager, of SCCAS.

Advice was given by William Fletcher, of SCCAS/CT.

The 1770 Alnesbourn Priory map was compiled by Anthony M. Breen, a freelance local history researcher.

#### 7. Bibliography / References

Ordnance Survey, 1983 'Soils of England and Wales': Soil survey of England and

Wales, sheet 4 Eastern England 1:250,000 Harpenden

1983

Maps

Alnesbourn Priory map 1770, compiled by Breen, T.

P461/146 Tithe Map Ipswich St Clements 1844 FDA146/1A/1a Tithe Apportionment 1846

P461/180 Tithe Map Nacton 1838 FDA180/1A/1a Tithe Apportionment 1839

Nacton Enclosure Map 150/1/3.16 1807

#### **Disclaimer**

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Team alone. Ultimately 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 services cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to the clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

#### Appendix 1.

#### **Brief and Specification for Desk-Based Assessment**

# CLIFF QUAY TO NACTON - UNDERGROUNDING OF HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE

#### 1. Background

- 1.1 EDF Energy, through the contractor Carillion, are currently undertaking a project to underground a High Voltage electricity cable to the south of Ipswich between Cliff Quay and Nacton, (TM 1728 4203 to TM 2150 3988). The proposed length of the cabling work is *c*. 3.63 km (Please contact the applicant for an accurate map of the development area).
- 1.2 This proposal passes, along its length, though a number of areas of archaeological importance, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record. This includes a double ring ditch (IPS 024) a prehistoric burial feature, and Braziers Wood (IPS 262), a section of ancient woodland. The development is adjacent to a number of other important archaeological areas including sites with finds from multiple periods, and extensive crop marks. Part of the route follows Gainsborough Lane, an old track way of medieval or post medieval date, which went to Ponds Halls (now Ponds Hall Farm). Second World War material is also prevalent along the pipeline. There is high potential for encountering archaeological material from a variety of periods along the proposed route. The proposed works has and will cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 1.3 The developers were advised that this project required archaeological mitigation, and some archaeological monitoring work was undertaken during the excavation of test pits under a separate Brief and Specification issued by this office. The construction of the contactor site compound and several lengths of cable trenching were however undertaken with out any prior archaeological mitigation being agreed.
- 1.4 A desk-based assessment of the known and potential archaeology along the cable route is therefore required as part of a programme of remedial archaeological work. This is to provide further information concerning the location, extent, survival and significance of the known archaeological remains along the length of the on the cable trench. This work should undertake to
  - Understand the potential for archaeological remains to survive in those areas that are yet top be completed
  - Understand the potential for archaeological remains to have been disturbed in those areas that were not monitored.
  - Seek to provide suggestions for a suitable archaeological mitigation methodology for the reminder of the unexcavated areas
- 1.5 This brief sets out the requirement for the work of an archaeological desk-based assessment.
- 1.6 This assessment is likely to lead to a further programme of works. This may consist of a general programme of archaeological evaluation (trial-trenching and monitoring). A further archaeological brief will be required for any subsequent stage of work from the desktop assessment.

#### 2. Objectives

2.1 To collate and assess the existing information regarding archaeological and historical remains within and adjacent to the site shown in the accompanying plan. It is important that a sufficiently large area around the target area is studied in order to give adequate context; in this instance an area with boundaries 100 m beyond the development boundary will be the minimum appropriate.

- 2.2 To identify any known archaeological sites, including existing buildings, which are of sufficient potential importance to require an outright constraint on development (i.e. those that will need preservation *in situ*).
- 2.3 To assess the potential for unrecorded archaeological sites within the application area.
- 2.4 To assess the likely impact of past land uses and the potential quality of preservation of below ground deposits, and where possible to model those deposits.
- 2.5 To assess the potential for the use of particular investigative techniques in order to aid the formulation of any mitigation strategy.
- 2.6 The results will inform the location and method of subsequent stages of evaluation.
- 2.7 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below. 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 Written Scheme of Investigation (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.

#### 3. Specification

- 3.1 The assessment shall be undertaken by a professional field archaeologist or a professional team of field archaeologists. The archaeological contractor is expected to follow the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- 3.2 Collation and assessment of the County Historic Environment Record is required to identify known sites and to assess the potential of the application area.
- 3.2 Collation and assessment of all cartographic sources relevant to the site is required, to identify historic landuse, the siting of old boundaries and any earlier buildings. Copies should be included in the report, where possible.
- 3.3 Collation and assessment of historic documentation relevant to the site is required, that would contribute to the archaeological investigation of the site.
- 3.4 Re-assessment of aerial photographic evidence was undertaken by the Monuments Protection Program for this area, copies of these crop mark plots should be included. An indication of the scale, form and direction of crop marks up to 500m from the site boundary should be included, where relevant to this development.
- 3.5 Examination of available geotechnical information to assess the condition and status of buried deposits and to identify local geological conditions. Relevant geotechnical data should be included as appendices to the report.
- 3.6 A site visit may be required to determine any constraints to archaeological survival.

#### 4. Report Requirements

4.1 The report shall be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding 1 month) from the end of fieldwork, to be agreed between the developer and archaeological contractor, with a copy supplied to the County Historic Environment Record. A full digital copy of the report will be supplied to Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT).

- 4.2 Assemble, summarise and order the available evidence.
- 4.2 Synthesise the evidence and place it in its local and/or regional context.
- 4.3 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence within the regional context. The conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, highlighting any research priorities, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 4.4 Comment on the reliability of the evidence and give an opinion on the necessity and scope for further assessment including field evaluation.
- 4.5 A comprehensive list of all sources consulted (with specific references) should be included.
- 4.6 A copy of the report should be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record within six months.
- 4.7 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <a href="http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/">http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/</a> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 4.8 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the County Historic Environment Record. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).
- 4.9 A digital copy of the air photographic evidence should be supplied with the report for inclusion in the County Historic Environment Record; AutoCAD files should be exported and saved into a format that can be can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files and ArcView.
- 4.10 The IFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments (1999) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.
- 4.11 Publication of the results, at least to a summary level (i.e. round up of archaeology in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology*), shall be undertaken in the year following the archaeological field work. An allowance shall be made within the costs for full publication in an appropriate journal.
- 4.12 The involvement of SCCAS/CT shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

#### 5. Monitoring

- 5.1 SCCAS/CT will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project. This will include the fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.
- 5.2 Notification of the start of work shall be given to SCCAS/CT one week in advance of its commencement.
- 5.3 Any variations to the written scheme of investigation shall be agreed with SCCAS/CT prior to them being carried out.

#### References

Brown, N. and Glazebrook, J.	2000	Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2: research agenda and strategy E. Anglian Archaeol. Occ. Pap. 8
Glazebrook, J.	1997	Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 1: a resource assessment. E. Anglian Archaeol. Occ.

Pap. 3

Specification by: William Fletcher

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Date: 24 September 2008

Reference: /EDF\_CliffQuay\_NactonRoad\_Desk2008

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.