

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

45/47 Kingsland and 18 Queensland, Shotley (SLY 164)

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATIONS,
2008 & 2009
(Planning app. no. B/07/01385)



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Figure 1. Location of site

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© March 2009

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HER information

Planning application no. B/07/01385
Date of fieldwork: 5th June 2008 and 30th January 2009
Grid Reference: TM 2331 3486
OASIS ID suffolkc1- 59011
Funding body: O Seaman & Son Ltd

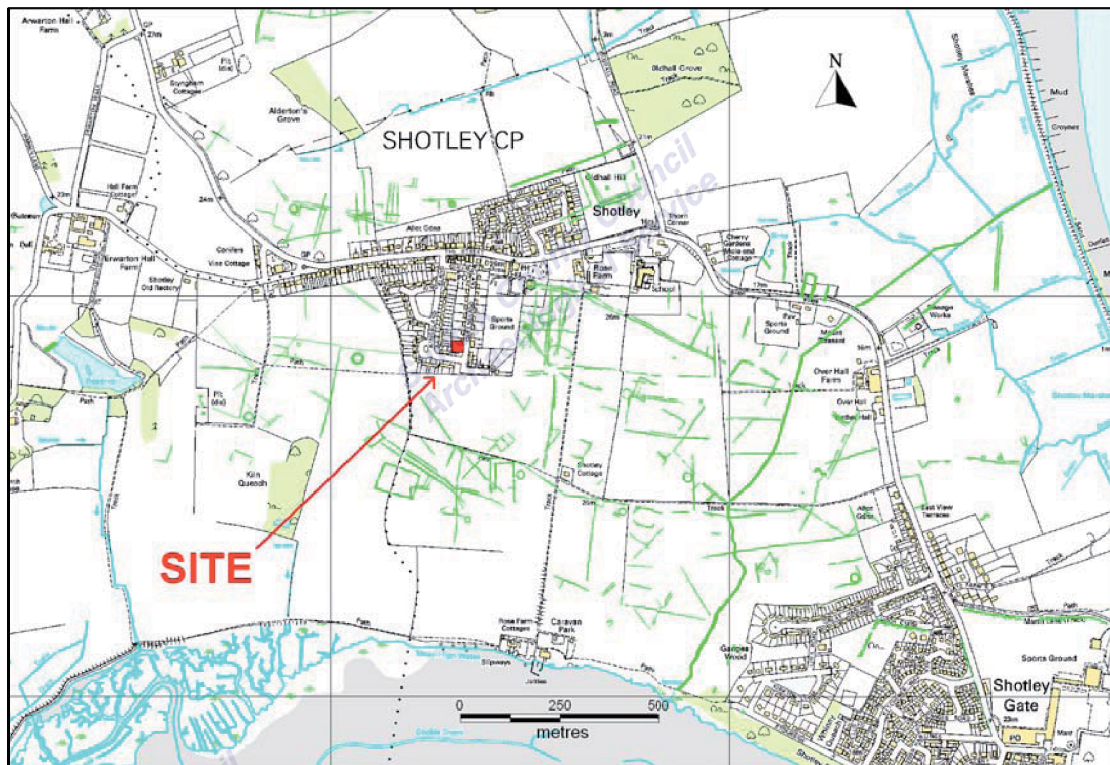
Summary

Shotley, 45/47 Kingsland and 18 Queensland (TM 2331 3486; SLY 164). On the 5th June 2008 and the 30th January 2009 trenches were excavated to assess the archaeological potential of this site. No features of archaeological interest were observed but thick deposits of between 500-600mm below the present topsoil were recorded and a single abraded, handmade pottery body sherd in a sandy fabric was recovered in a layer under the topsoil. The site is near to an intense concentration of cropmarks recognised from aerial photography. The thickness of deposit could relate to previous episodes of site use, possibly agricultural, and might relate to more than one period. (Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S., for O Seaman & Son Ltd; report no. 2009/091)

1. Introduction

The Planning Authority (Babergh District Council) was advised by the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) that the archaeological potential of the site should be evaluated as a condition of planning consent. The site comprises of three separate plots; the houses on these plots were to be demolished and replaced by new residential buildings.

Two phases of archaeological trial trenching were proposed to coincide with the demolition of 45/47 Kingsland (June 2008) and of 18 Queensland (January 2009). Linear trenches were dug to sample, as near as possible, those potential archaeological deposits that would be affected by new building. A copy of the Brief and Specification issued by Dr Jess Tipper of the SCCAS Conservation Team is at the end of this report (Appendix 1).



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Figure 2. Site SLY 164 (red square) with adjacent areas of archaeological interest identified from aerial photographs as recorded in the Historic Environment Record (HER) for Suffolk

The site is surrounded by dense concentrations of archaeological features identified from aerial photography (Fig.2). Undated ditches and enclosures indicate an extensively utilised landscape, probably occupied from the prehistoric period onwards.

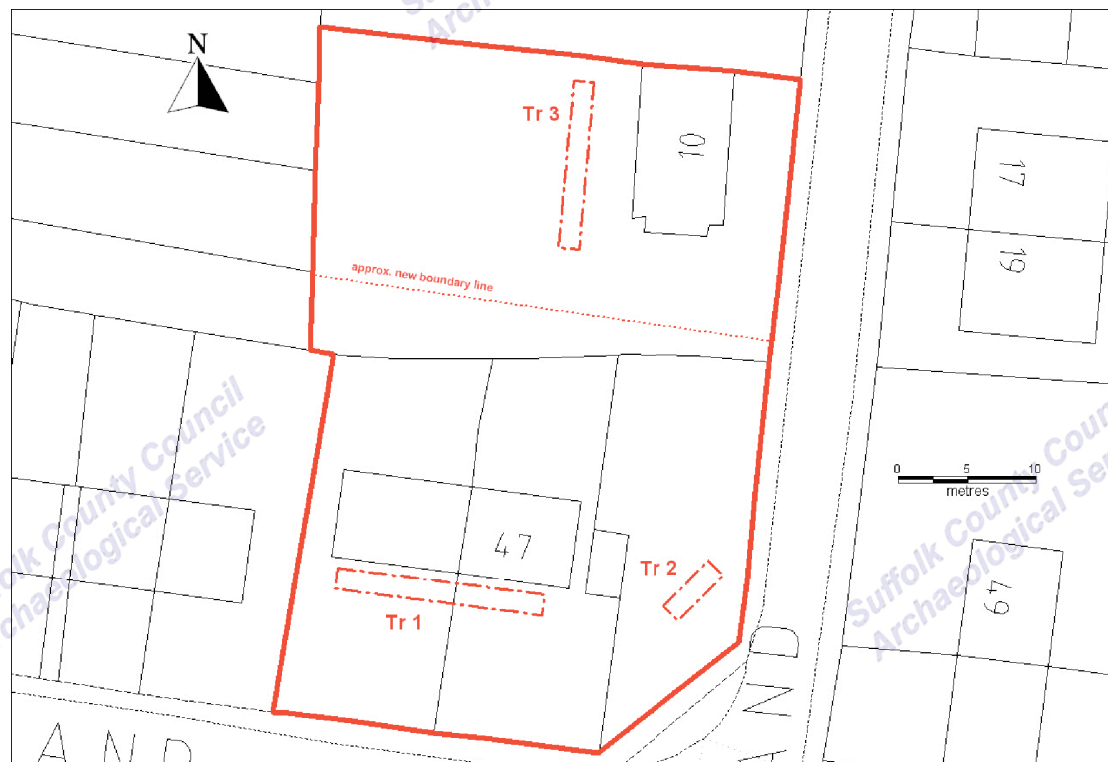
2. Method

Trenching was undertaken using a 180° mechanical mini-digger equipped with a 1.5m wide toothless ditching bucket (provided by the on-site contractos). Three trenches were positioned across the site to sample deposits within or close to proposed new buildings. In total 31.5m of linear trench were dug (Fig. 3).

Trenches 1 and 2 were dug in June 2008. Underground services and fish ponds behind 45/47 Kingsland resulted in Trench 1 being positioned along the front of these demolished buildings. Trench 2 was located to the east of the first trench to test the depth of deposits seen in Trench 1.

Trench 3 was dug in January 2009. This trench was positioned adjacent to the concrete slab of the demolished building at 18 Queensland

During the evaluation, all machining was observed by an archaeologist standing adjacent to or within the trench. The upcast soil was checked visually for any archaeological finds. The base of the trench was examined for features of archaeological significance. A digital photographic record was made of trenches in JPG format (at 72dpi resolution). Records were made of the position, length and depth of trenches. Observations were made of the depth of any overlying layers encountered and of the underlying natural geological deposits. Deposits encountered were described and specimen sections sketched at a scale of 1:10.



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Figure 3a. Location of Trenches 1 to 3

The site is identified by the site code SLY 164, as assigned by the Suffolk Historic Environment Record. The stratigraphic components of all deposits were allocated 'observable phenomena' (OP) numbers (referred to as context numbers hereafter) within a continuous numbering system starting at 0001

The archive will be located within the offices of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service. The finds archive will be kept in Bury St Edmunds and the rest of the site archive will be deposited in Ipswich. The site code SLY 164 will be used to identify all elements of the archive associated with this project.

3. Results

No features of archaeological interest were recognised. Deep deposits were, however, identified in all three trenches and these are summarised in Table 1 below. A single sherd of abraded prehistoric pottery was recovered from the deep subsoil layer 0003 in Trench 1 (see section 4).

Context	Trench	Thickness (mm)	Description	Notes
0001			Unstratified finds	None recovered
0002	1&2	250 (T1) 300 (T2)	Mid/dark brown clay loam topsoil	
0003	1&2	250	Mid/pale orange brown silty clay and with occasional small rounded stones	Prehistoric sherd (T1)
0004	1	150	With diffused contact with and similar to 0003 above but slightly sandy, with sandy pockets and moderate small stones	
0005	2	250	Similar to 0004 but with sharper contact with 0003 above and slightly more sandy and stony	
0012	3	325	Mid/dark brown clay loam topsoil	
0013	3	250	Mid brown silty clay, occasional rounded stones and charcoal flecks	
0014	3	120	Mottled pale & mid brown silty clay with unclear contact with 0015 below	
0015	3	250	Pale to mid (darker than 0014) sandy clay with diffuse contact with above	

Table 1. Summary of layers recognised in Trenches 1 to 3

Context number 0001 was reserved for unstratified finds but none were found.

Topsoil 0002 was 250-300mm depth in Trenches 1 and 2. Topsoil 0012 in Trench 3 was of 325mm thickness.

In Trenches 1 and 2, layer 0003 was encountered under the topsoil. Of 250mm thickness in both trenches, this deposit was mid to pale orange brown silty clay with occasional small rounded stones. In Trench 3 a very similar but not quite so pale deposit (0013), also of 250mm depth, was encountered.

In Trench 1 under 0003, with a diffused contact, was layer 0004. This deposit was of 150mm thickness and was similar to 0003 above but was slightly sandy and had sandy patches and moderate small stones. This deposit was over natural yellow sand and clay sand.

In Trench 2 under 0003 was layer 0005 of 250mm thickness. This deposit was similar to 0004 in Trench 1 but was more clearly defined from 0003 above and was slightly more sandy and stony. This deposit was over yellow sand and clay sand natural.

In Trench 3, under subsoil 0013 was layer 0014 of 120mm thickness. This deposit was of mottled mid and pale brown silty clay and had an indistinct contact with 0015 below. Layer 0015 was 250mm thick, was pale to mid (darker than 0014) sandy clay. This deposit was over mid orange yellow sand and gravel with some clay.

4. Finds

Identified by Cathy Tester

A single sherd of pottery was recovered from the side of Trench 1 from layer 0003. This was an abraded fragment of 3 grammes weight, was a handmade body sherd with sand-tempering and was probably of prehistoric date.

5. Conclusions

No archaeological features were recognised and the single pottery find recovered was abraded and could be residual in the layer it was found in. The depth and comparative complexity of horizontal deposits is, however, of note and probably relates to previous episodes of human activity; possibly agricultural. The thickness of layers, the presence of prehistoric pottery and the proximity to a dense concentration of crop marks point to past utilisation of probably more than one period (prehistoric to medieval).

6. Disclaimer

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

APPENDIX 1

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for a Archaeological Trenched Evaluation

45/47 KINGSLAND AND PLOT 18 QUEENSLAND, SHOTLEY, SUFFOLK

The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety responsibilities.

1. The nature of the development and archaeological requirements

- 1.1 Planning permission for the erection of 1 No. 4 bed chalet and 4 No. 2 bed bungalows (following demolition of the existing buildings) at 45/47 Kingsland and Plot 18, Queensland, Shotley, Suffolk (TM 2331 3486), has been granted by Babergh District Council conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (application B/07/01385).
- 1.2 The proposed development has a total area of 0.16ha and located at c. 26.00m AOD. The underlying glaciofluvial drift geology of the site comprises loam and sandy soils local flinty and in places over gravel.
- 1.3 This proposal lies in an area of archaeological importance, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record. It is situated within close proximity to trackways, enclosures and field systems, recorded as cropmarks by aerial photography (SLY 004). There is high potential to encounter occupation deposits at this location. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 1.4 A linear trenched evaluation is required of the development area, before any groundworks take place. The results of this evaluation will enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified, informing both development methodologies and mitigation measures. Decisions on the need for, and scope of, any further work should there be any archaeological finds of significance will be based upon the results of the evaluation and will be the subject of an additional brief.
- 1.5 All arrangements for the field evaluation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated with the commissioning body.
- 1.6 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.
- 1.7 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 WSI as satisfactory. The WSI will provide the basis for measurable standards and will be used to satisfy the requirements of the planning condition.

- 1.8 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 the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of SCC (SCCAS/CT) before execution.
- 1.9 The responsibility for identifying any constraints on field-work, e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c., ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such constraints or imply that the target area is freely available.
- 1.10 Any changes to the specifications that the project archaeologist may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated directly to SCCAS/CT and the client for approval.

2. Brief for the Archaeological Evaluation

- 2.1 Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ* [at the discretion of the developer].
- 2.2 Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- 2.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- 2.4 Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- 2.5 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.6 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2), all stages will follow a process of assessment and justification before proceeding to the next phase of the project. Field evaluation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential. Any further excavation required as mitigation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential, analysis and final report preparation may follow. Each stage will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design; this document covers only the evaluation stage.
- 2.7 The developer or his archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT (address as above) five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored.
- 2.8 If the approved evaluation design is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected. Alternatively the presence of an archaeological deposit may be presumed, and untested areas included on this basis when defining the final mitigation strategy.
- 2.9 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

3. Specification: Field Evaluation

- 3.1 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover a 5% by area, which is 80m² of the development plot. These shall be positioned to sample all parts of the site. Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.8m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated; this will result in a minimum of 44m of trenching at 1.8m in width.
- 3.2 The existing buildings may be mechanically removed to ground level, and any concrete slabs broken up by the building contractor, prior to archaeological evaluation, using an appropriate machine. However, no ground disturbance should be caused by this work and no foundations should be removed until the evaluation has taken place. Where necessary, this work may be monitored by an archaeologist to ensure that no potential archaeological deposits are disturbed.
- 3.3 Material sealed below the slab should be removed by machine with a back-acting arm and fitted with a toothless bucket. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. All material below the modern disturbance should be examined for archaeological material.
- 3.4 If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' at least 1.2m wide must be used. A scale plan showing the proposed locations of the trial trenches should be included in the Written Scheme of Investigation and the detailed trench design must be approved by SCCAS/CT before field work begins.
- 3.5 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine with a back-acting arm and fitted with a toothless bucket, down to the interface layer between topsoil and subsoil or other visible archaeological surface. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.
- 3.6 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.
- 3.7 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation; that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled. For guidance:
- For linear features, 1.00m wide slots (min.) should be excavated across their width;
- For discrete features, such as pits, 50% of their fills should be sampled (in some instances 100% may be requested).
- 3.8 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.

- 3.9 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. The contractor shall show what provision has been made for environmental assessment of the site and must provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from 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.
- 3.10 Any natural subsoil surface revealed should be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Sample excavation of any archaeological features revealed may be necessary in order to gauge their date and character.
- 3.11 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.
- 3.12 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed SCCAS/CT during the course of the evaluation).
- 3.13 Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. However, the excavator should be aware of, and comply with, the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.
- 3.14 Plans of any archaeological features on the site are to be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum. Any variations from this must be agreed with SCCAS/CT.
- 3.15 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies and/or high resolution digital images.
- 3.16 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.
- 3.17 Trenches should not be backfilled without the approval of SCCAS/CT.

4. General Management

- 4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by SCCAS/CT. The archaeological contractor will give not less than five days written notice of the commencement of the work so that arrangements for monitoring the project can be made.
- 4.2 The composition of the archaeology contractor staff must be detailed and agreed by this office, including any subcontractors/specialists. For the site director and other staff likely to have a major responsibility for the post-excavation processing of this evaluation there must also be a statement of their responsibilities or a CV for post-excavation work on other archaeological sites and publication record.
- 4.3 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are available to fulfill the Brief.

- 4.4 A detailed risk assessment must be provided for this particular site.
- 4.5 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 4.6 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

5. Report Requirements

- 5.1 An archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1).
- 5.2 The report should reflect the aims of the WSI.
- 5.3 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 5.4 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given. No further site work should be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established.
- 5.5 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.
- 5.6 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including an assessment of palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 5.7 The results of the surveys should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the County HER.
- 5.8 A copy of the Specification should be included as an appendix to the report.
- 5.9 The project manager must consult the County HER Officer (Dr Colin Pendleton) to obtain an HER 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.
- 5.10 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*.
- 5.11 The project manager should consult the SCC Archive Guidelines 2008 and also the County HER Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive.
- 5.12 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner/developer to the deposition of the finds with the County HER or a museum in Suffolk which satisfies Museum and Galleries Commission requirements, as an indissoluble part of the full site archive. If this is not achievable for all or parts of the finds archive then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate. If the County HER is the repository for finds there will be a charge made

for storage, and it is presumed that this will also be true for storage of the archive in a museum.

- 5.13 The site archive is to be deposited with the County HER within three months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 5.14 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project (whether it be evaluation or excavation) a summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology*, must be prepared. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 5.15 County HER sheets must be completed, as per the County HER manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 5.16 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 HER. 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.
- 5.17 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.
- 5.18 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the County HER. 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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Tel: 01284

Date: 22 April 2008
Shotley2008

Reference: / 45-47Kingsland-

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.