

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT**

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**SCCAS REPORT No. 2009/268**

**Chalkstone Way Sports Field,  
Chalkstone Way, Haverhill, Suffolk**

**HVH 068**

**Kieron Heard**  
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## HER Information

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**Planning Application No:** SE/08/1344

**Date of Fieldwork:** 08–11 September 2009

**Grid Reference:** TL 6793 4589

**Funding Body:** St Edmundsbury Borough Council

**Curatorial Officer:** Jess Tipper

**Project Officer:** Kieron Heard

**Oasis Reference:** suffolkc1–64048

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## Summary

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HVH 068, Chalkstone Way Sports Field, Chalkstone Way, Haverhill: A trial trench evaluation was carried out in advance of the construction of a new football pitch, clubhouse and associated facilities. 12 trenches (total area 579m<sup>2</sup>) were excavated, representing approximately 4% of the area of the proposed development.

The natural stratum is glacial till. A small, truncated pit in the western part of the site contained a few sherds of Bronze Age pottery, probably from the same vessel. Two ditches in the northern half of the site are undated. Thick, modern deposits of made ground in the central and southern parts of the site demonstrate that it was landscaped extensively when the existing sports field was created.

In the light of these limited results a recommendation is made that no further archaeological fieldwork is required in relation to the proposed development. This evaluation report will be disseminated *via* the OASIS online archaeological database and a summary of the results will be published in the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History.

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## 1. Introduction

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An archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was carried out at Chalkstone Way Sports Field, Chalkstone Way, Haverhill in accordance with an archaeological condition relating to planning permission for a sports field development (planning application number: SE/08/1344). Milburn, Leverington and Thurlow Architecture and Design commissioned the evaluation on behalf of St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

## 2. Location, topography and geology

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The development site is centred at National Grid Reference TL 6793 4589 and encompasses an area of approximately 14,670m<sup>2</sup>. It is entirely within an existing sports field. The sports field is bounded to the southwest by Chalkstone Way, to the southeast by farmland and to the northwest and northeast by the grounds of Samuel Ward School (Fig. 1).

The site is on fairly level ground at an average height of approximately 97m OD. The published Quaternary geology on the site is glacial till (British Geological Survey, East Anglia, Sheet 52N 00, Quaternary). Calcareous, clayey soils of the Hanslope series overlie the glacial till.

## 3. Archaeological background

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There has been no previous archaeological fieldwork on the site. The site is located in an area of archaeological importance as defined in the County's Historic Environment Record. Specifically it is close to the find spot of an Iron Age coin hoard (HER number: HVH 001). Two Roman coins (HVH 002) have been found approximately 400m southeast of the site. An archaeological evaluation in advance of a housing development 500m southeast of the site revealed isolated pits of Bronze Age and Iron Age date, and an Iron Age ditch (HVH 059; Craven, 2008).

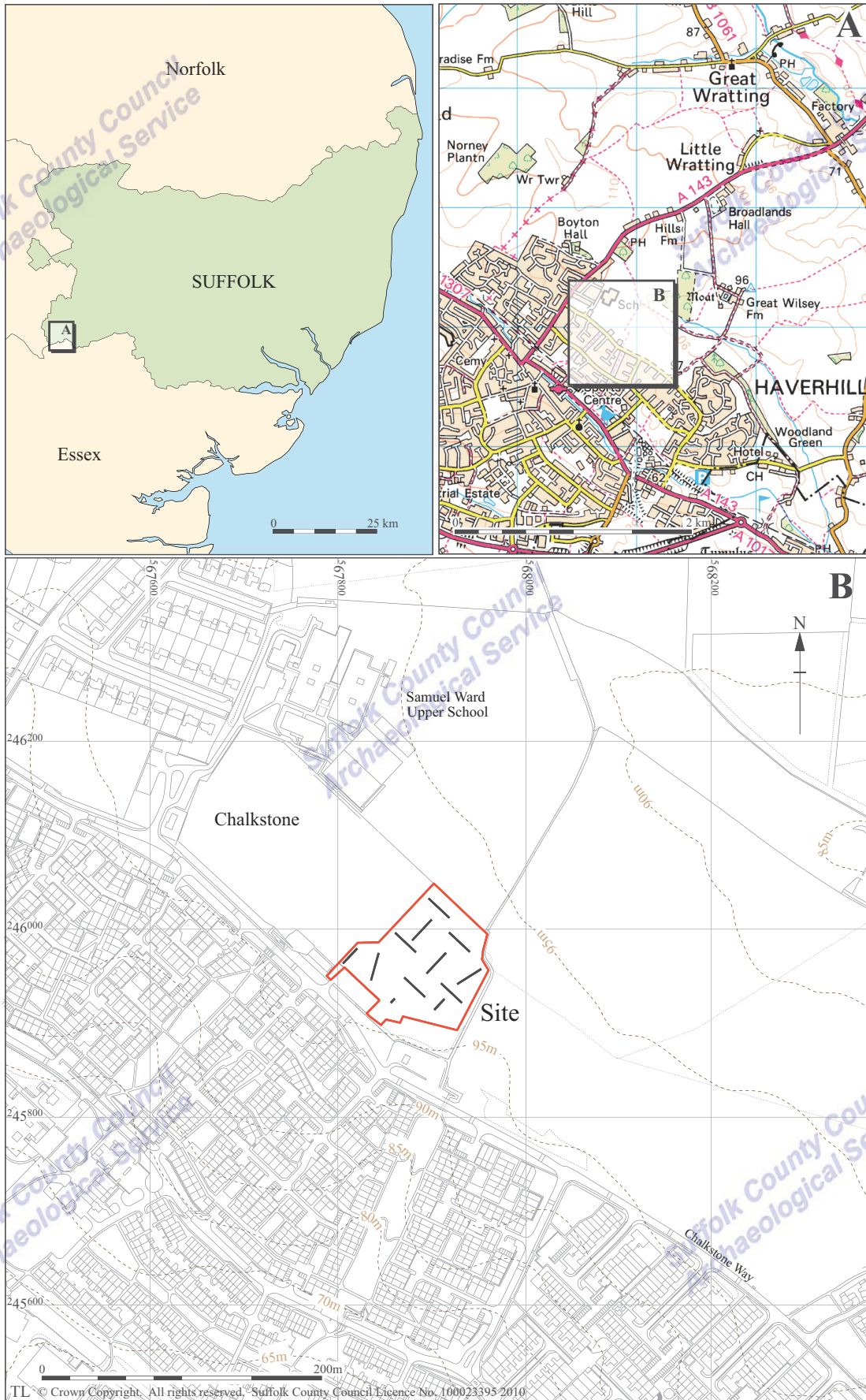


Figure 1. Location of site, showing development area (red), trenches (black)

## 4. Methodology

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The archaeological evaluation took place on 08–11 September 2009 and was conducted generally in accordance with a Brief and Specification written by Jess Tipper of SCCAS Conservation team (Tipper, 2009; Appendix 1), and a Method Statement and Risk Assessment by Kieron Heard (Heard, 2009).

There were some notable variations to the methodologies described in the above documents, all of which were approved by the Archaeological Officer:

- Trenches 1, 3 and 10 were shorter than the 30m lengths specified, because of the depth of made ground deposits encountered in those areas of the site.
- Trench 2 was not excavated because of its proximity to the perimeter fence and the anticipated depth of deposits in that area of the site.

Twelve evaluation trenches (Fig. 2) were excavated under direct archaeological supervision using a tracked 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.80m wide ditching bucket. The trenches were generally 30m long by 1.80m wide and were excavated to depths of between 0.20m and 1.70m below ground level, depending on soil conditions. Trench 3 was 6m long, Trench 10 was 15.5m long and Trench 1 was 21.70m long. The trenches were located according to survey data provided by the client, using a Leica RTK Global Positioning System.

Generally, mechanical excavation continued to the top of the geological stratum, although in some of the trenches it extended below that depth in order to confirm the nature of the geological stratum. A number of archaeological features were excavated with hand tools.

The archaeological features, soil horizons and natural stratum were recorded using a unique sequence of context numbers in the range 0001–0012. They were drawn in plan (at a scale of 1:20) and section (at scales of 1:10 or 1:20) on 290 x 320mm sheets of gridded drawing film. Written records (trench descriptions, etc) were made on *pro-forma* context sheets or on the planning sheets. A digital photographic record was made, consisting of high-resolution .jpg images.

A metal-detecting survey was carried out on mechanically- and hand-excavated soils, with negative results.

Levels were calculated using a temporary benchmark of 95.88m OD, located on a drain grate in the road adjacent to the site entrance. This level was derived from a site investigation report provided by the client (S.I.C. (East Anglia) Limited, 2008).

The evaluation trenches covered an area of 579m<sup>2</sup>, representing approximately 4% of the total area of the proposed development.

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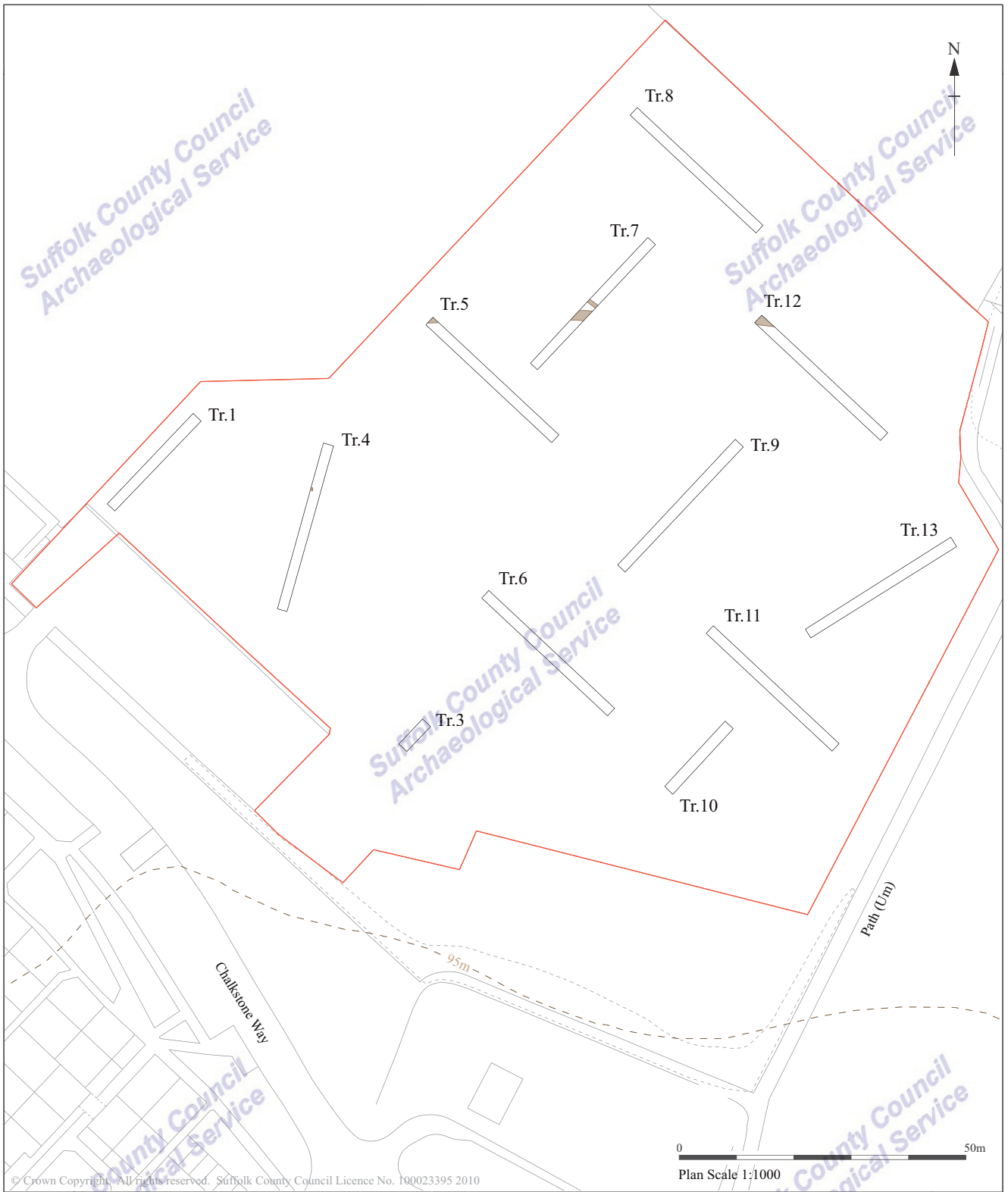


Figure 2. Trench locations

## 5. Results

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### 5.1 Introduction

Archaeological features were recorded in four evaluation trenches and these are described below in the section dealing with individual trench descriptions (5.3). Otherwise, the evaluation revealed a straightforward vertical sequence of deposits comprising the geological stratum, made ground deposits and topsoil, as described below (5.2) and illustrated on Plate 1.

### 5.2 General deposit descriptions

The geological stratum (context 0010) is glacial till (boulder clay). It is stiff, light yellowish brown clay/silt containing frequent small to large fragments of chalk and angular flint. It slopes downwards from northwest to southeast, being recorded at a maximum height of 96.93m OD at the northwest end of Trench 5 and a minimum height of 94.85m OD at the southwest end of Trench 10.

In the central and southern parts of the site deposits of made ground overlie the geological stratum. Deposit 0003 is a layer of compact, dark brown clayey soil, generally about 0.10m–0.15m thick, which in most cases directly overlies the glacial till. This is sealed by thicker deposits of soil, crushed chalk and clay that contain much modern demolition rubble (0002). The depth of made ground increases from north to south; it is absent from Trenches 5, 8 and 12 and the northern parts of Trenches 9 and 13, and has a maximum observed thickness of 1.50m in Trenches 3 and 10.

Modern topsoil and turf (0001) seal the made ground deposits or, where those are absent, the glacial till.

A number of ceramic land drains of relatively recent date were observed at or slightly below the surface of the glacial till but these were not recorded archaeologically.

### 5.3 Trench descriptions

#### Trench 1

*Dimensions: 21.70m x 1.80m x 0.50m deep (NE end), 0.70m deep (SW end)*

*Ground level: 97.41m OD (NE) 97.36m OD (SW)*

| <u>Deposits / features</u> | <u>Depth below ground level</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Topsoil & turf 0001        | 0.00m                           |
| Made ground 0002           | 0.20m                           |
| Geological stratum 0010    | 0.50m (NE), 0.70m (SW)          |

Table 1. Depth of deposits in Trench 1

#### Trench 3

*Dimensions: 6.00m x 1.80m x 1.60m deep*

*Ground level: 96.67m OD*

| <u>Deposits / features</u> | <u>Depth below ground level</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Topsoil & turf 0001        | 0.00m                           |
| Made ground 0002           | 0.20m                           |
| Geological stratum 0010    | 1.60m                           |

Table 2. Depth of deposits in Trench 3

#### Trench 4

*Dimensions: 30.00m x 1.80m x 0.46m deep (N end), 1.00m deep (S end)*

*Ground level: 97.12m OD (N) 97.08m OD (S)*

| <u>Deposits / features</u> | <u>Depth below ground level</u>         |
|----------------------------|---|
| Topsoil & turf 0001        | 0.00m                                   |
| Made ground 0002           | 0.24m (N), 0.22m (S)                    |
| Made ground 0003           | 0.92m (in southern half of trench only) |
| Pit 0009 and its fill 0008 | 0.50–0.62m                              |
| Geological stratum 0010    | 0.34m (N), 1.00m (S)                    |

Table 3. Depth of deposits and features in Trench 4

#### **Archaeological features**

Pit 0009 is oval, measuring 0.60m north–south x 0.16m east–west x only 0.12m deep, with a saucer-shaped profile (Fig. 3; Plate 2). It cuts geological stratum 0010 and is sealed by made ground deposit 0002. Its fill 0008 is firm, dark brown clay/silt with black patches suggesting charcoal inclusions. The pit contained fifteen small and abraded sherds of Bronze Age pottery but no plant macrofossils or other environmental evidence.

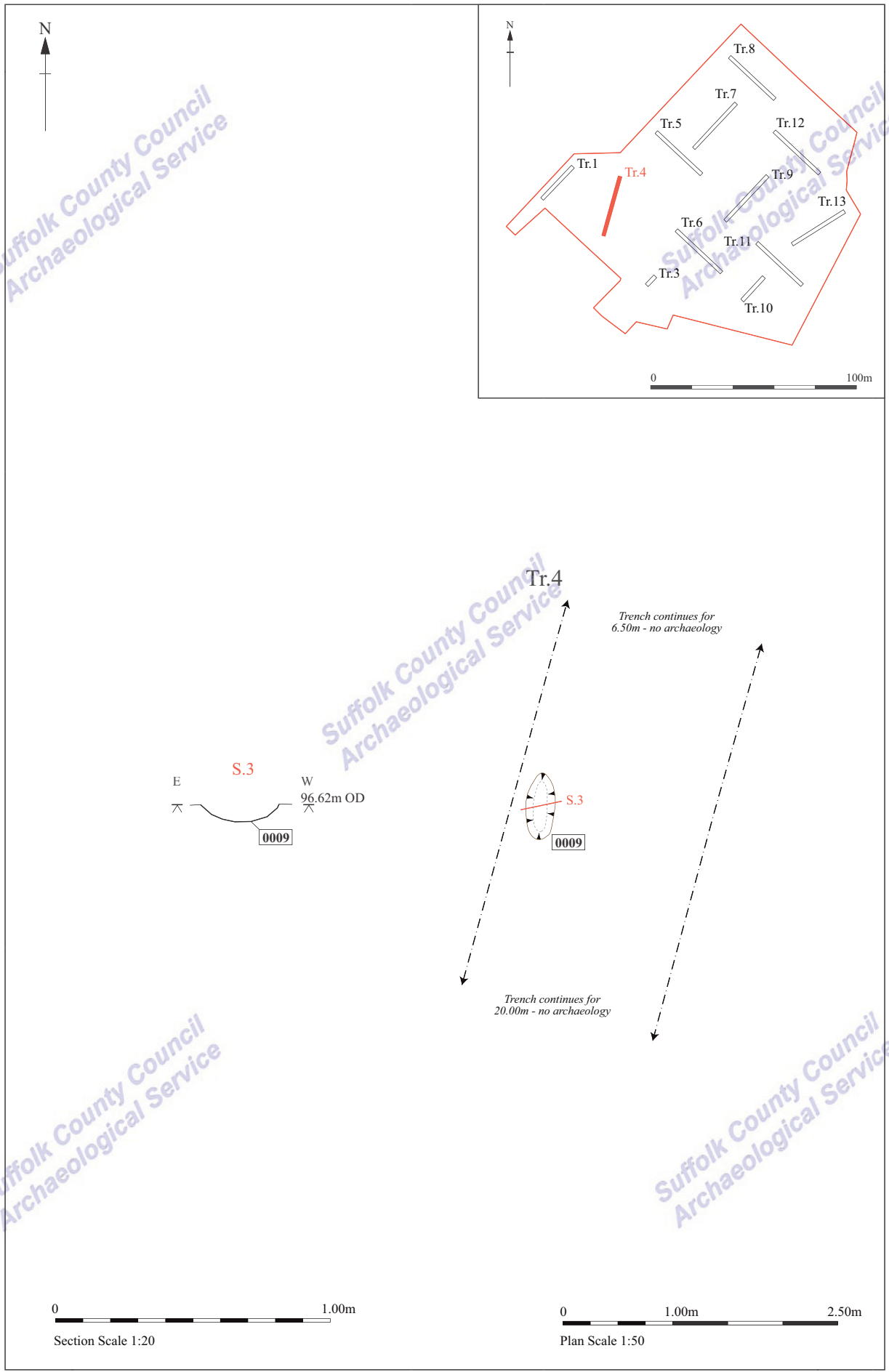


Figure 3. Trench 4, plan and section



## Trench 5

Dimensions: 30.00m x 1.80m x 0.40m deep (NW end), 0.37m deep (SE end)

Ground level: 97.20m OD (NW) 97.01m OD (SE)

| <u>Deposits / features</u>   | <u>Depth below ground level</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Topsoil & turf 0001          | 0.00m                           |
| Ditch 0005 and its fill 0004 | 0.27m (unexcavated)             |
| Cut 0012 and its fill 0011   | 0.27 – 0.38m                    |
| Geological stratum 0010      | 0.27m                           |

Table 4. Depth of deposits and features in Trench 5

## Archaeological features

0005 is a ditch that was recognised, but not excavated, at the northwest end of Trench 5 (Fig. 4). It is described more fully below (Trench 7).

Cut 0012 (not illustrated) extended almost the entire length of Trench 5. It is 27m long x >1.80m wide x 0.10m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. It cuts geological stratum 0010 and is sealed by topsoil 0001. Its fill 0011 is a loose mixture of crushed stone and coal/clinker that contains an iron bolt of a type used to secure railway track to wooden sleepers.

## Trench 6

Dimensions: 30.00m x 1.80m x 1.00m deep (NW end), 1.20m deep (SE end)

Ground level: 96.79m OD (NW) 96.57m OD (SE)

| <u>Deposits / features</u> | <u>Depth below ground level</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Topsoil & turf 0001        | 0.00m                           |
| Made ground 0002           | 0.15m (NW), 0.23m (SE)          |
| Made ground 0003           | 0.80m (NW), 1.09m (SE)          |
| Geological stratum 0010    | 1.00m (NW), 1.20m (SE)          |

Table 5. Depth of deposits in Trench 6

## Trench 7

Dimensions: 30.00m x 1.80m x 0.25m deep (NE end), 0.40m deep (SW end)

Ground level: 96.96m OD (NE) 97.11m OD (SW)

| <u>Deposits / features</u>            | <u>Depth below ground level</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Topsoil & turf 0001                   | 0.00m                           |
| Made ground 0002                      | 0.20m (NE), 0.20m (SW)          |
| Linear feature 0005 and its fill 0004 | 0.36 – 0.76m                    |
| Ditch 0007 and its fill 0006          | 0.32 – 0.62m                    |
| Geological stratum 0010               | 0.25m (NW), 0.40m (SW)          |

Table 6. Depth of deposits and features in Trench 7

## **Archaeological features**

0005 is a wide but shallow ditch that was excavated and recorded in Trench 7 and observed (but not excavated) in Trenches 5 and 12, giving it an overall length in excess of 58m. It is 1.80m wide and 0.40m deep with moderately steep sides and a concave base (Figs. 4–6; Plates 3 & 4). It cuts geological stratum 0010 and is sealed by made ground deposit 0002. Its fill 0004 is stiff, mid greyish brown clay/silt containing moderate small to medium fragments of chalk and medium to large fragments of angular flint, but no cultural material.

0007 is a ditch oriented approximately northwest–southeast. It is >1.80m long x 0.66m wide x 0.30m deep, with steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 5; Plate 3). It cuts geological stratum 0010 and is sealed by made ground deposit 0002. Its fill 0006 is stiff, mid greyish brown clay/silt containing moderate small to medium fragments of chalk and medium to large fragments of angular flint, but no cultural material.

### **Trench 8**

*Dimensions: 30.00m x 1.80m x 0.20m deep*

*Ground level: 97.02m OD (NW) 96.76m OD (SE)*

| <b>Deposits / features</b> | <b>Depth below ground level</b> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Topsoil & turf 0001        | 0.00m                           |
| Geological stratum 0010    | 0.20m                           |

Table 7. Depth of deposits in Trench 8

### **Trench 9**

*Dimensions: 30.00m x 1.80m x 0.75m deep (NE end), 0.87m deep (SW end)*

*Ground level: 96.74m OD (NE) 96.81m OD (SW)*

| <b>Deposits / features</b> | <b>Depth below ground level</b>    |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Topsoil & turf 0001        | 0.00m                              |
| Made ground 0002           | 0.20m (only in SW third of trench) |
| Made ground 0003           | 0.25m (8m from SW end), 0.42m (SW) |
| Geological stratum 0010    | 0.25m (NW), 0.50m (SW)             |

Table 8. Depth of deposits in Trench 9

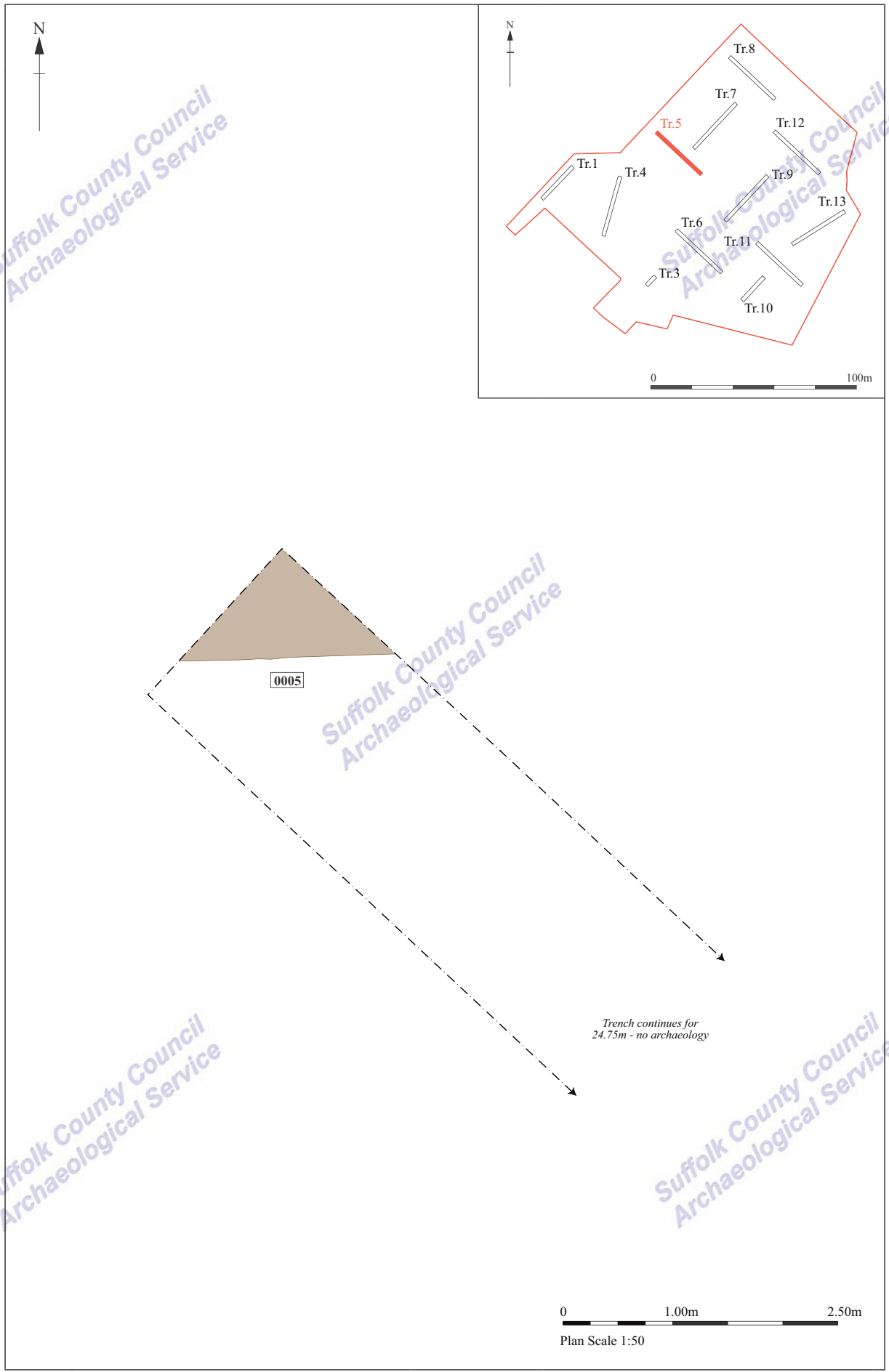


Figure 4. Trench 5, plan

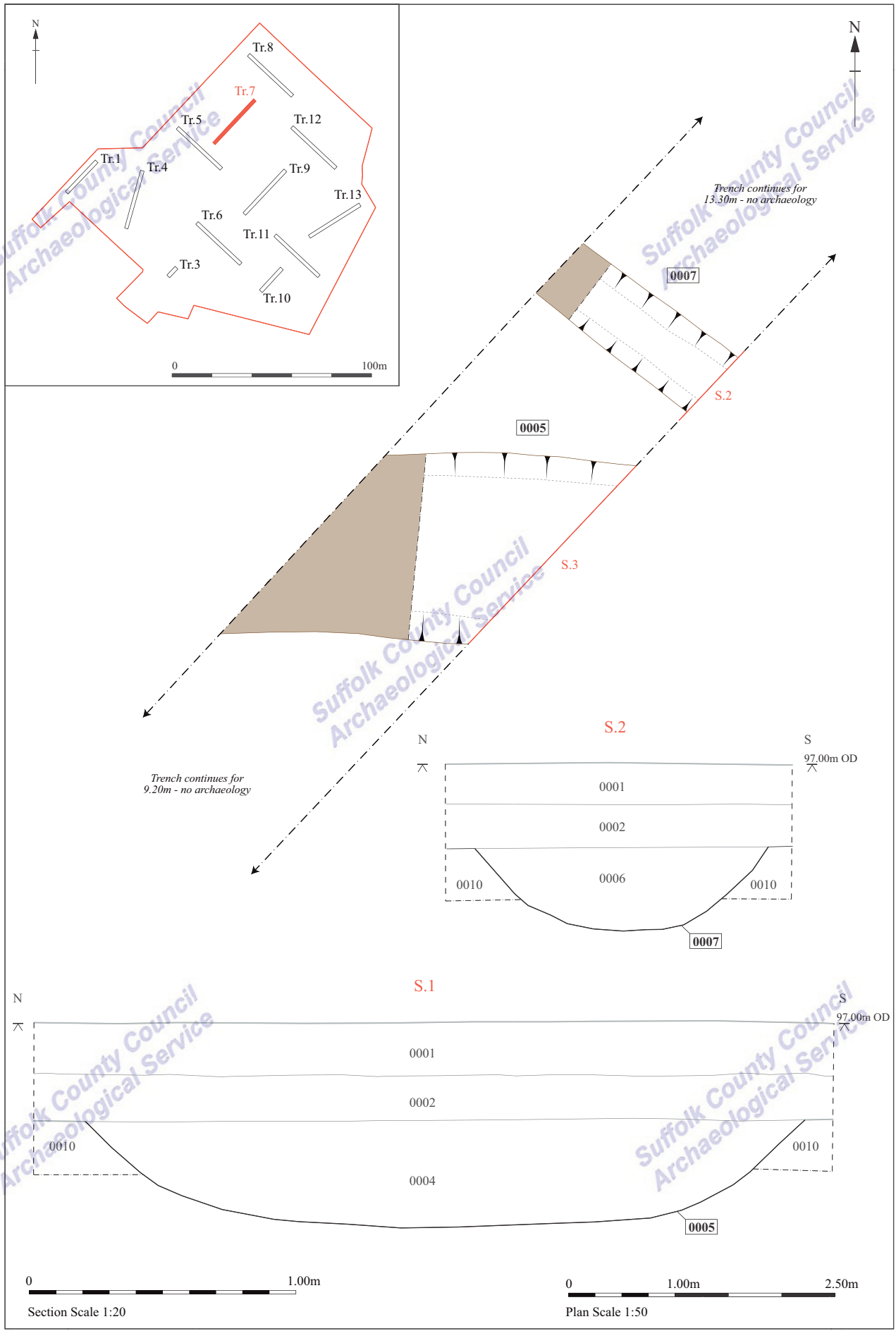


Figure 5. Trench 7, plan and sections

## Trench 10

Dimensions: 15.50m x 1.80m x 1.10m deep (NE end), 1.70m deep (SW end)

Ground level: 96.54m OD (NE) 96.55m OD (SW)

| <u>Deposits / features</u> | <u>Depth below ground level</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Topsoil & turf 0001        | 0.00m                           |
| Made ground 0002           | 0.20m                           |
| Made ground 0003           | 1.15m (NE), 1.55m (SW)          |
| Geological stratum 0010    | 1.10m (NE), 1.70m (SW)          |

Table 9. Depth of deposits in Trench 10

## Trench 11

Dimensions: 30.00m x 1.80m x 0.84m deep (NW end), 0.92m deep (SE end)

Ground level: 96.68m OD (NW) 96.54m OD (SE)

| <u>Deposits / features</u> | <u>Depth below ground level</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Topsoil & turf 0001        | 0.00m                           |
| Made ground 0002           | 0.23m (NW), 0.30m (SE)          |
| Made ground 0003           | 0.72m (NW), 0.83m (SE)          |
| Geological stratum 0010    | 0.84m (NW), 0.92m (SE)          |

Table 10. Depth of deposits in Trench 11

## Trench 12

Dimensions: 30.00m x 1.80m x 0.25m deep

Ground level: 96.72m OD (NW) 96.75m OD (SE)

| <u>Deposits / features</u>            | <u>Depth below ground level</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Topsoil & turf 0001                   | 0.00m                           |
| Linear feature 0005 and its fill 0004 | 0.25m (unexcavated)             |
| Geological stratum 0010               | 0.25m                           |

Table 11. Depth of deposits and features in Trench 12

## Archaeological features

0005 is a ditch that was recognised, but not excavated, at the northwest end of Trench 12 (Fig. 6; Plate 4). It is described more fully above (Trench 7).

## Trench 13

Dimensions: 30.00m x 1.80m x 0.34m deep (NE end), 1.10m deep (SW end)

Ground level: 96.76m OD (NE) 96.67m OD (SW)

| <u>Deposits / features</u> | <u>Depth below ground level</u>  |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Topsoil & turf 0001        | 0.00m                            |
| Made ground 0002           | 0.28m (starting 13m from NE end) |
| Geological stratum 0010    | 0.34m (NE), 1.10m (SW)           |

Table 12. Depth of deposits in Trench 13

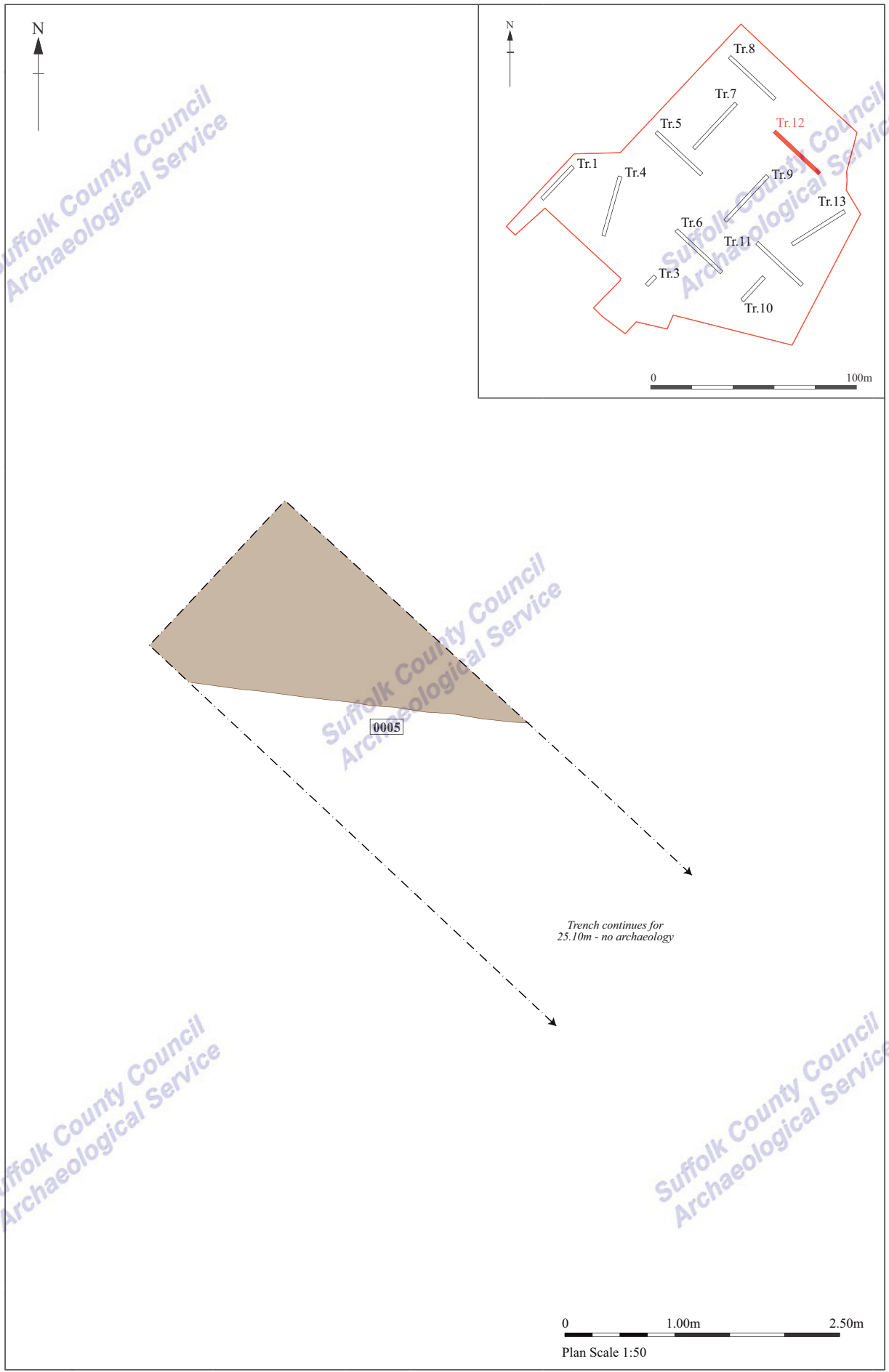


Figure 6. Trench 12, plan



Plate 1. Southwest-facing section in the centre of Trench 11, showing a typical sequence of made ground deposits (1m scale)



Plate 2. Pit 0009 under excavation, looking west



Plate 3. View of ditches 0005 and 0007 in Trench 7, looking east (1m scale)



Plate 4. View of ditch 0005 (unexcavated) at the northwest end of Trench 12



## **6. Finds evidence**

Cathy Tester and Val Fryer

### **6.1 Pottery**

Fifteen undecorated sherds of Bronze Age pottery weighing 35g were found in pit 0009 (0008). The sherds are tempered with common medium pieces of grog and occasional quartz sand and appear to be from one vessel. The outer surface is orange and the core and internal surfaces are dark grey to black. The sherds are abraded and not closely datable.

### **6.2 Plant macrofossils and other remains**

#### **Introduction and method statement**

A single sample for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblage was taken from fill 0008 of pit 0009. The sample was processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flot was collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flot was scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16. As the assemblage was very limited in composition the results have not been tabulated. The non-floating residue was collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts were retained for further specialist analysis.

#### **Results**

With the exception of modern fibrous roots and seeds, plant macrofossils are not present within this sample. The assemblage is entirely composed of small and very abraded fragments of pot along with 'crumbs' of burnt or fired clay, most of which appear to be of a similar fabric to the pot. One minute fragment of coal is almost certainly intrusive within the assemblage.

## 7. Discussion

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The archaeological evaluation has revealed localised evidence for prehistoric activity, some undated ditches, a large, modern intrusion and extensive evidence for modern landscaping.

Pit 0009 in Trench 4, in the western part of the site, contained a few sherds of Bronze Age pottery that are probably from a single vessel. The pit was small and truncated, and there was no evidence for the contemporary ground surface. The function of the pit is unknown; analysis of its fill failed to produce any plant macrofossils or other environmental indicators. There are no associated features and no other conclusive evidence for prehistoric activity on the site.

Ditches 0005 and 0007, in the northern half of the site (Fig. 7), were undated; neither of them appeared on early Ordnance Survey maps and they are presumed to have been of pre-19th-century date. They were both shallow and were presumably truncated by ploughing or during the relatively recent landscaping of the site. 0005 was oriented east–west and was observed in three trenches (5, 7 and 12), extending over a distance of at least 58m. It was 1.80m wide but survived to only 0.40m deep – even allowing for some recent truncation the ditch was shallow for its depth and it is unlikely to have functioned well as a drainage feature. 0007, recorded only in Trench 7, had a more pronounced profile. It was oriented approximately northwest–southeast, and was 0.66m wide x 0.30m deep, with steep sides and a concave base. Its function and full extent within the site are unknown.

Feature 0012 in Trench 5 was clearly of relatively modern date and is interpreted as a sunken rubble base for a building, perhaps a former sports pavilion or changing room. A modern service trench was seen (but not excavated or recorded) at the north end of Trench 4; it ran in a north–south direction towards Trench 5.

Thick, modern deposits of made ground in the central and southern parts of the site demonstrate that it was landscaped extensively when the existing sports field was created. This is confirmed by comparing ground levels in the south-eastern corner of the site with the much lower levels in the south-western corner of the adjacent field. No evidence for earlier activity was observed in these parts of the site.

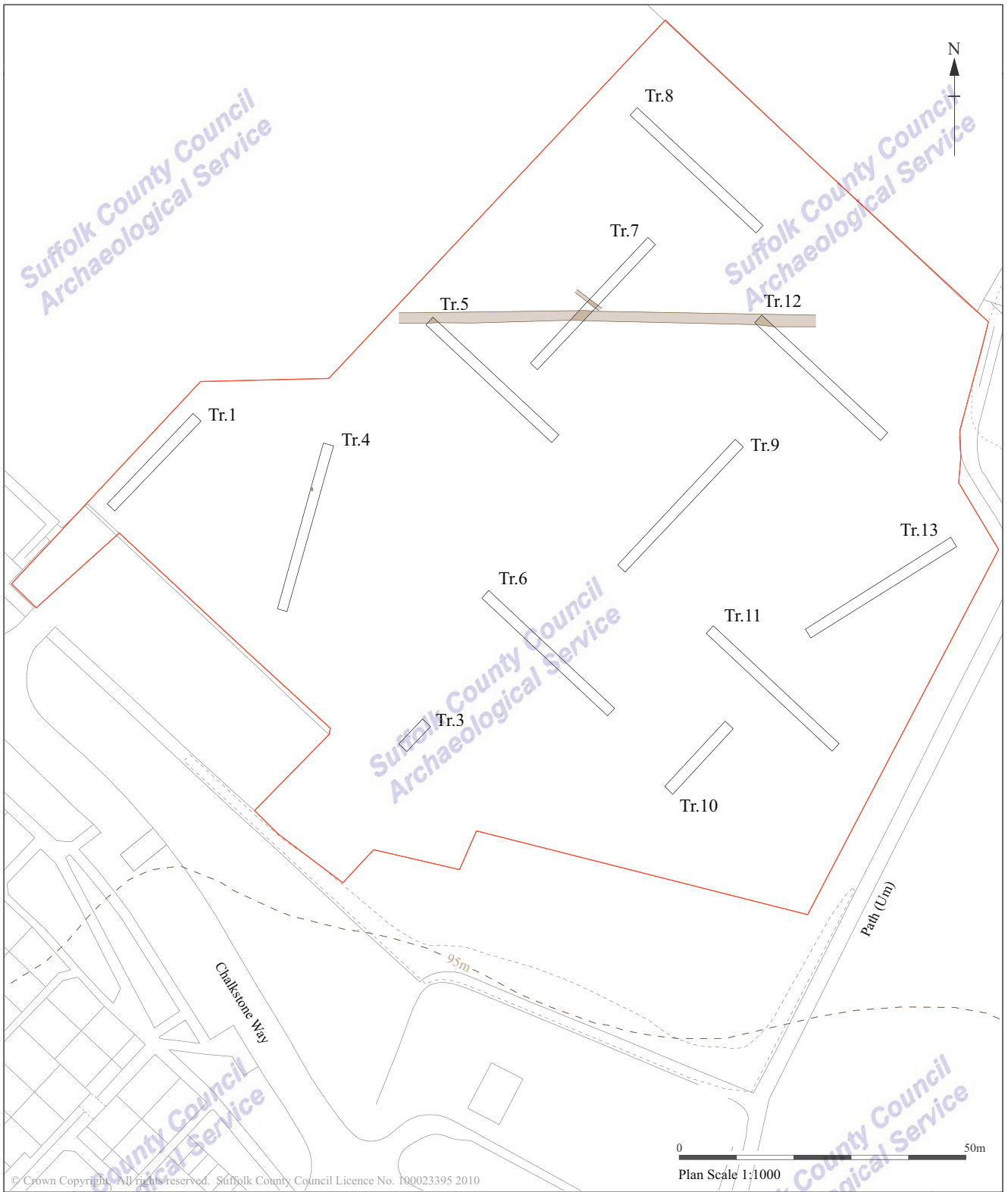


Figure 7. General plan of archaeological features

## **8. Conclusions and recommendations for further work**

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The evaluation has revealed an isolated Bronze Age pit and two ditches of unknown date. These archaeological features have all been truncated heavily, either by ploughing or as a result of more recent landscaping of the site.

In the light of these limited results it is recommended that no further archaeological fieldwork is required in relation to the proposed development of the site. This evaluation report should be disseminated *via* the OASIS online archaeological database and a summary of the results of the fieldwork should be published in the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History.

## **9. Archive deposition**

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Paper, photographic and digital archive: SCCAS Ipswich

Finds archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds, Parish Box H / 80 / 3

## **10. Acknowledgements and list of contributors**

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The project was commissioned by Terry Newbury of Milburn, Leverington and Thurlow Architecture and Design and funded by St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Particular thanks are due to Colin Lockwood of Barnes Construction, who facilitated the archaeological fieldwork.

The project was managed by Rhodri Gardner. Kieron Heard and Mark Sommers conducted the fieldwork. Andy Beverton carried out the site survey.

Rebekah Pressler processed the finds and Cathy Tester assessed and reported on the prehistoric pottery. The environmental sample was assessed by Val Fryer.

## 11. Bibliography

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### **Disclaimer**

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of SCCAS Field Projects Team alone. Ultimately the Local Planning Authority and its Archaeological Advisors will determine the need for further work 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.

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## Appendix 1. Brief and specification

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### Brief and Specification for Trenched Evaluation

#### **CHALKSTONE WAY, HAVERHILL, SUFFOLK (SE/08/1344)**

**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 a new clubhouse/changing room and construction of new football ground and associated facilities at Chalkstone Way, Haverhill, Suffolk (TL 677 460) has been granted by St Edmundsbury Borough Council conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (SE/08/1344) (See accompanying plan but please contact the developer for an accurate plan of the development).

1.2 In order to secure mitigation, the Borough Council has attached a PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition, to the planning consent:

“No development shall take place within the application site until the developer has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which shall have been submitted by the applicant to, and approved in writing by, the Local Planning Authority”.

1.3 The proposed development area is located on the north side of Chalkstone Way, on chalky till at c. 95.00m AOD. The area affected by new development measures c. 1.45 ha. in extent (excluding the training pitch).

1.4 This site lies in an area of archaeological importance, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record. It is situated to the north of the find spot of an Iron Age coin hoard (HER no. HVH 001) that is indicative of further occupation within this area. However, the area has not been the subject of systematic archaeological investigation. The site has good potential for the discovery of important hitherto unknown archaeological sites and features in view of its topographic location overlooking the River Stour. There is high potential for archaeological deposits to be disturbed by this development. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.

1.5 In order to inform the archaeological mitigation strategy, the following work will be required:

- A linear trenched evaluation is required of the development area.

1.6 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.

1.7 A series of boreholes and probes undertaken in the area of the new clubhouse and car park (Site Investigation report 9542. September 2008) has shown that southern-most part of the site consists of made ground (up to c. 1.50m in depth), which gradually decreases northwards; the area of the main football pitch, which will require topsoil stripping, has not been sampled. Therefore, the trenching will need to establish, as a priority, the depth and extent of made-

(and/or truncated-) ground across the site, and the level of preservation below the made ground in those areas affected by development.

- 1.8 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.
- 1.9 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.
- 1.10 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.
- 1.11 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.
- 1.12 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.
- 1.13 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 5% by area of the new development (excluding the training pitch), which is 725.00m<sup>2</sup>. 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 1.80m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated; this will result in a minimum of 403.00m of trenching at 1.80m in width. The exact area and extent of the access road is undefined and this area will also need to be evaluated.
- 3.2 If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' at least 1.80m wide must be used. A scale plan showing the proposed locations of the trial trenches should be included in the WSI and the detailed trench design must be approved by SCCAS/CT before field work begins.
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 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 Rachel Ballantyne, 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. Ceramic specialists, in particular, must have relevant experience from this region, including knowledge of local ceramic sequences.
- 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 Historic Environment Record (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 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure the proper deposition (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>).
- 5.13 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.
- 5.14 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.
- 5.15 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.

- 5.16 County HER sheets must be completed, as per the County HER manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 5.17 An unbound copy of the evaluation 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.
- Following acceptance, two copies of the report should be submitted to SCCAS/CT together with a digital .pdf version.
- 5.18 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.
- 5.19 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.
- 5.20 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

Suffolk County Council  
Archaeological Service Conservation Team  
Environment and Transport service Delivery  
9 – 10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall  
Bury St Edmunds  
Suffolk IP33 2AR  
Tel: 01284 352197  
Email: jess.tipper@suffolk.gov.uk

Date: 1 July 2009

Reference: / ChalkstoneWay-Haverhill2009rev

**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. Context list

| Context | Type       | Interpretation     | Trench                       | Drawing Sheet |
|---------|------------|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| 0001    | Deposit    | Topsoil            | All                          | 1, 2          |
| 0002    | Deposit(s) | Recent made ground | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13 | 1, 2          |
| 0003    | Deposit    | Recent made ground | 4, 6, 9-11                   | N             |
| 0004    | Fill       | Fill of ditch 0005 | 5, 7, 12                     | 1-3           |
| 0005    | Cut        | Ditch              | 5, 7, 12                     | 1-3           |
| 0006    | Fill       | Fill of ditch 0007 | 7                            | 2             |
| 0007    | Cut        | Ditch              | 7                            | 2             |
| 0008    | Fill       | Fill of pit 0009   | 4                            | 4             |
| 0009    | Cut        | Pit                | 4                            | 4             |
| 0010    | Deposit    | Natural stratum    | All                          | 1, 2          |
| 0011    | Fill       | Fill of cut 0012   | 5                            | N             |
| 0012    | Cut        | Structural cut     | 5                            | N             |

## Appendix 3. Contents of the stratigraphic archive

| Type   | Quantity | Format                 |
|--|----------|------------------------|
| Trench recording sheets                            | 12       | A4 paper               |
| Environmental sample recording sheet               | 1        | A4 paper               |
| Plan/section drawing sheets                        | 4        | 290 x 320mm film       |
| Digital images                                     | 17       | 3008 x 2000 pixel .jpg |
| Digital image register sheet                       | 1        | A4 paper               |
| This evaluation report (SCCAS report no. 2009/268) | 1        | A4 wire-bound          |

## Appendix 4. Digital image register

| Number | Description   |
|--------|---|
| GDW 01 | W facing section at N end of Trench 10                |
| GDW 02 | S facing section in centre of Trench 11               |
| GDW 03 | General view of Trench 11, looking E                  |
| GDW 04 | Ditch 0005, looking E                                 |
| GDW 05 | Ditch 0007, looking E (wide angle)                    |
| GDW 06 | Ditch 0007, looking E (detail of section)             |
| GDW 07 | General view of Trench 7, looking N                   |
| GDW 08 | General view of Trench 9, looking N                   |
| GDW 09 | General view of Trench 13, looking N                  |
| GDW 10 | General view of Trench 12, looking E                  |
| GDW 11 | General view of Trench 8, looking W                   |
| GDW 12 | E facing section at N end of Trench 3                 |
| GDW 13 | N facing section at E end of Trench 6                 |
| GDW 14 | View of W end of Trench 5, looking W (ditch 0005)     |
| GDW 15 | General view of Trench 5, looking E                   |
| GDW 16 | Working shot – excavating prehistoric pot in pit 0009 |
| GDW 17 | Pit 0009, looking S (0.20m scale)                     |