



Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2010/015

Suffolk County a Service The Recreation Ground, Finborough Road, Stowmarket **SKT 055**

E.Muldowney
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HER Information

Planning Application No: 2768/09

Date of Fieldwork: 26th January 2010

Archo Grid Reference: TM 044 587

> **Funding Body: Stowmarket Town Council**

Curatorial Officer: Jess Tipper

Project Officer: Liz Muldowney

Oasis Reference: Suffolkc1-72048

Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:

http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit Suffolk County Council

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at The Recreation Ground,
Finborough Road, Stowmarket on the 26th January 2010. Two trenches were
excavated and a posthole was recorded cutting through the excavated and a posthole was recorded cutting through the subsoil. No other features were encountered. A small number of artefacts were collected from the posthole and from the topsoil. No environmental samples were taken.

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1. Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at the Recreation Ground, Finborough Road, Stowmarket on the 26th January 2010. The work was carried out in accordance with a brief and specification issued by Jess Tipper (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team). This document is included as Appendix 1. The work was undertaken in advance of construction of a sunken concrete skate park. Funding was provided by the site owner Stowmarket Town Council.

2. Geology and topography

The site lies at TM 044 587 within the town of Stowmarket (Fig. 1). The development area was broadly rectangular and measured 338.4m². It was located within the present children's playground within the park to the north-west of the centre of town. Immediately to the north of the playground is the current skate/bmx park. The ground sloped gently from north to south, with a more pronounced banked area around the skate/bmx park. The ground surface on the bank was at 37.60m OD, and to the south of the trenches it was at 36.4m OD. Large pieces of fixed play equipment were still present during the evaluation and the trenches were positioned to avoid damaging them. The geological horizon was light yellowish brown clay with rounded chalk fragments, becoming more orange in hue to the west of the development area. This natural horizon was at 36.10m OD in Trench 1 and 36.4m OD in Trench 2.

3. Archaeological and historical background

The development area lies in an area of archaeological potential, overlooking the valleys of the Rivers Gipping and Rattlesden and it is topographically favourable for early occupation. The location has good potential for the discovery of important hitherto unknown archaeological sites and features in view of its location. In addition, a Mesolithic find spot is recorded from this area (SKT 001), indicative of further occupation in the immediate vicinity. A summary of a search of the Historic Environment Record (HER) within the vicinity of the development area is contained in Table 1 below, and their location is recorded on Figure 2.

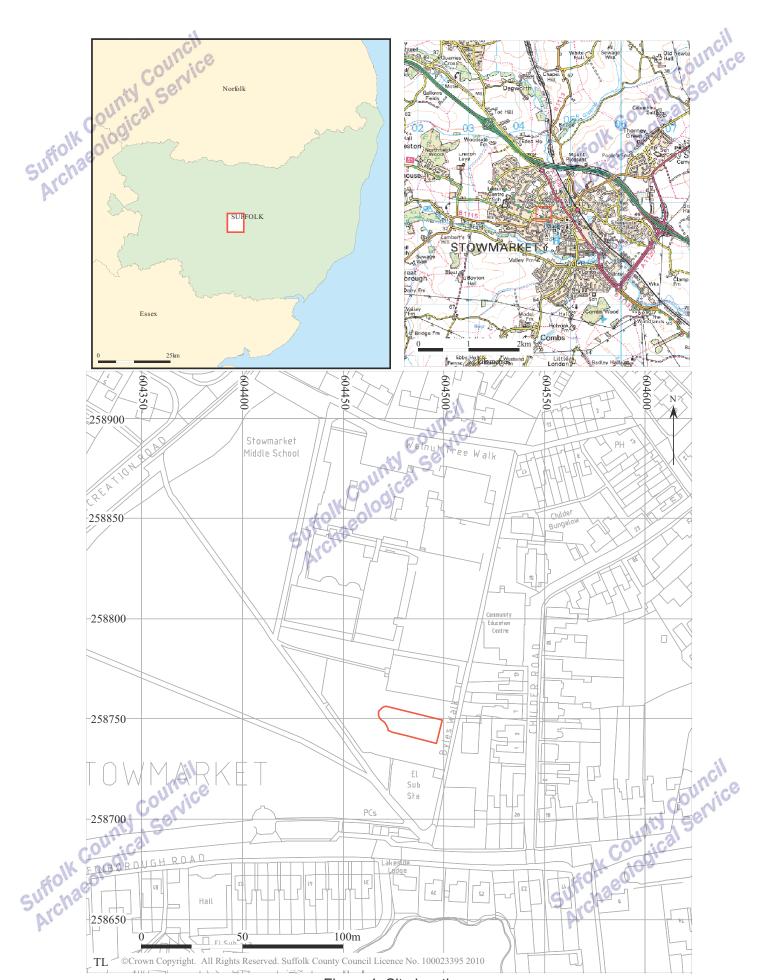


Figure 1. Site location

	Reference	Type	Form	Date	Description
,	SKT 001	Findspot	Axe	Mesolithic	Thames Valley type pick recovered from school grounds
	SKT 004	Earthwork	Moat	Medieval	Remnants of a medieval moat at Chilton Hall Farm
	SKT 005	Excavation	Unknown	Unknown	Not recorded
	SKT 010	Documentary reference	Fairground	Medieval	Reference to a medieval fairstead in this location
V	SKT 012	Documentary reference	House	Post- medieval	Site of Thorney Hall
1	SKT 014	Excavation	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
	SKT 015	Documentary reference	Graveyard	Post- medieval	Communal grave for soldiers who fell victim to small pox epidemic in 17th century in St Peter and St Mary's church yard
	SKT 016	Earthwork	Abbots Hall	Post- medieval	18th century canal, moat and gardens associated with Abbots Hall
	SKT 017	Documentary reference	Brickworks	Post- medieval	Finborough Road Brickworks, 19th to 20th century. Some quarry pits remain as ponds, majority of site redeveloped for housing
	SKT 022	Documentary reference	Town	Medieval	Area representing the medieval core of Stowmarket
	SKT 023	Documentary reference	Bridge	Post- medieval	16th century reference to bridge over the River Gipping
	SKT 025	Monitoring	Pottery	Medieval	Medieval pottery recovered during monitoring at the Royal Oak
	SKT 028	Excavation	Pit	Undated	An undated pit
	SKT 032	Evaluation	Pits etc.	Medieval	12th to 14th century pits and some walls recorded during evaluation

Table 1. Selected HER references in the vicinity of the development area

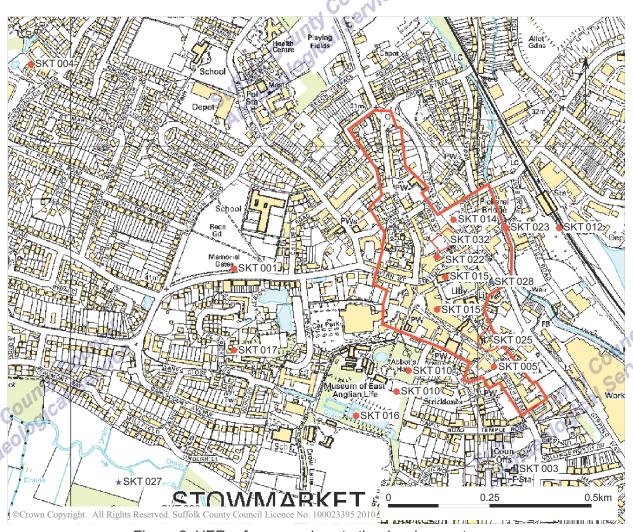


Figure 2. HER references close to the development area

4. Methodology

A programme of evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief and specification provided by Jess Tipper (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team). This required the excavation of a 30m of evaluation trench along the main axis of the development area. However, the presence of the play equipment meant that two trenches totalling 22m in length were excavated. The trenches were set out by tape and were located using differential GPS (Leica 1200). These trenches measured 39.96m² covering 11.8 % of the 338.4m² development area (Fig. 3).

The trenches were excavated using a JCB type wheeled excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. The recording was carried out in accordance with SCCAS guidelines, all records were created using SCCAS proformas and high resolution (7 megapixel) digital images were taken of all features and trenches. All finds were retained for inspection, and no environmental samples were taken.

5. Results

5.1 Introduction

Two trenches were excavated within the current play area in the Recreation Ground at Finborough Road (Fig. 3). A single feature was encountered in Trench 2.

5.2 Trench 1

Trench 1 was located on the west side of the current play equipment and was oriented west to east and measured 12m in length (Fig. 3). No archaeological features were present. The natural clay geological horizon was encountered at approximately 0.65m below modern ground level at 36.10m OD. This was sealed below 0.35m of friable mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil (0003). Above this was 0.30m of friable dark greyish brown silty clay topsoil. A fragment of modern pottery was recovered from the topsoil in this trench that was probably part of a flower pot.

Trench 2 was located on the east side of the current play equipment and was also oriented west to east (Fig. 3). It measured 40.0 oriented west to east (Fig. 3). It measured 10.2m in length. A single feature was observed in the trench cutting through the subsoil (Fig. 2). The natural horizon was encountered at 0.64m below the modern ground surface at 36.50m OD. The stratigraphic sequence in this trench varied from Trench 1 and is described below.

Subsoil layer 0003 directly sealed the natural clay and was 0.30m in depth. It was the same deposit as seen in Trench 1.

Posthole 0006 cut through the subsoil layer, and was partially obscured by the southern baulk (Fig. 3, Section 1). It was sub-circular, near vertical-sided with a sharp break of slope to a concave base. It measured 0.36m+ in length, 0.36m in width and 0.45m in depth. The single slightly mottled fill 0007 was dark greyish brown silty clay similar to the topsoil. It contained two fragments of eroded post-medieval ceramic building material.

Topsoil 0002 sealed the fill of the posthole. It measured 0.20m in depth and was the same as the topsoil recorded in Trench 1.

Layer 0005 sealed the topsoil at the west end of the Trench only. It extended for 8m from the west end of the trench before disappearing and extended for 0.5m to the south into the trench before petering out. It measured 0.20m in depth and was immediately below the turf line.





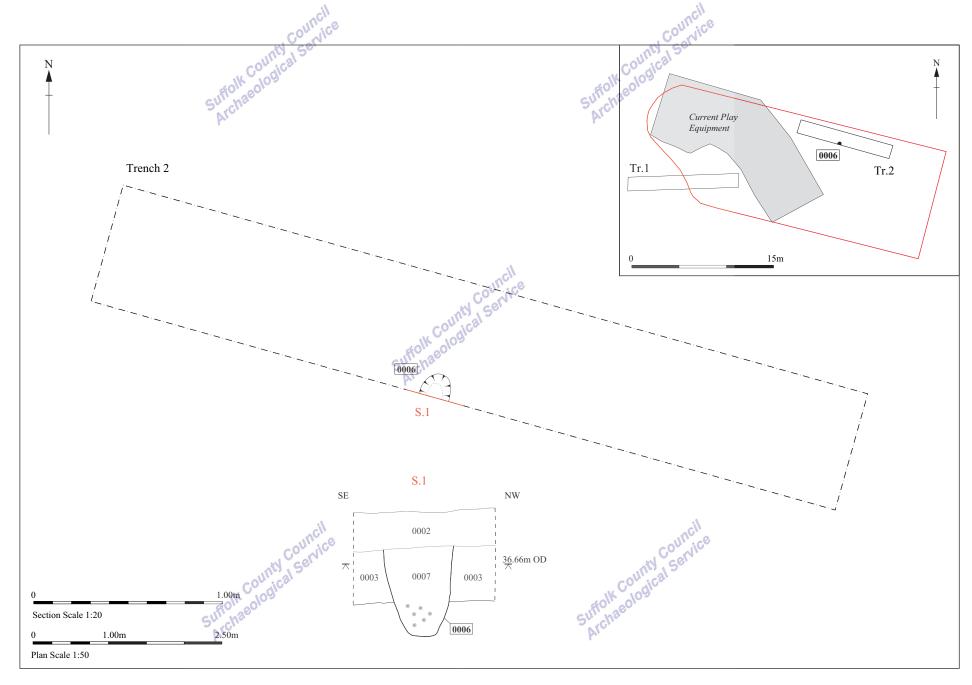


Figure 3. Trench plan and section

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6.2 Pottery

A single sherd of pottery was collected from the evaluation. A fragment of unglazed redware (Late post-medieval earthenware), which is probably a plant pot was found in topsoil deposit 0002 dating to the 18th-20th century.

6.3 Ceramic building material

Three fragments of ceramic building material were recovered (28g). A small piece of post-medieval roofing tile was found in 0002 (fabric type msfe). Two further fragments from the posthole fill 0007 are another abraded fragment of probably rooftile which is post-medieval (msfe) and a small sliver of cbm made in a fine fabric with clay pellets (fscp) which is late medieval or post-medieval in date.

6.4 Finds discussion

The small quantity of finds recovered from the evaluation are post- medieval, apart from one small fragment of ceramic building material which may be slightly earlier.

7. **Discussion**

The single feature encountered during the evaluation is likely to be post-medieval or modern in date because it cut through the subsoil and contained post-medieval ceramic building material fragments within its fill. The layer 0005 over the topsoil in Trench 2 is probably a modern make-up layer forming part of a banked area around the current skate/bmx park to the north.

8. Conclusions and recommendations for further work

Despite the potential for encountering archaeology on this site, no features of any antiquity were encountered within the development area. As such no further work is likely to be required.

9. Archive deposition

Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

T:\Arc\ALL site\Stowmarket\SKT 055 Skate park, Recreation Ground

Finds and environmental archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds. Store Location: Parish box

H/81/3

10. List of contributors and acknowledgements

The evaluation was carried out by a Liz Muldowney and Mo Muldowney from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

The project was directed by Liz Muldowney and managed by Jo Caruth.

The post-excavation was managed by Richenda Goffin. Finds processing was carried out by Jonathon van Jennians and illustrations were produced by Crane Begg. The specialist finds report was produced by Richenda Goffin, who also checked the report.

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

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Evaluation RECREATION GROUND, FINBOROUGH ROAD, STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK (2768/09)

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 has been sought from Mid Suffolk District Council (2768/09) for the installation of a new skate park, and play equipment, at the Recreation Ground, Finborough Road, Stowmarket (TM 044 587). Please contact the applicant for an accurate plan of the site.
- 1.2 The Planning Authority has been advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins (PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition).
- 1.3 The site is located to the north of Finborough Road at *c*. 35 -40.00m AOD. The soils are deep clay of the Hanslope series, derived from the underlying chalky till.
- 1.4 The proposal lies in an area of archaeological potential, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record. The site is overlooking the valleys of the Rivers Gipping and Rattlesden and it is topographically favourable for early occupation. The location has good potential for the discovery of important hitherto unknown archaeological sites and features in view of its location. In addition, a Mesolithic find spot is recorded from this area (HER no. SKT 001), indicative of further occupation in the immediate vicinity. Any groundworks causing significant ground disturbance have the 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. Decisions on the need for and scope of any mitigation measures, 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 specification.
- 1.7 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.
- 1.8 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.

- 1.9 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 2 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.
- 1.10 Neither this specification nor the WSI, however, is a sufficient basis for the discharge of the planning condition relating to archaeological investigation. Only the full implementation of the scheme, both completion of fieldwork and reporting based on the approved WSI, will enable SCCAS/CT to advise Mid Suffolk District Council that the condition has been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged.
- 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*.
- 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: Trenched Evaluation

- 3.1 A single linear trial trench is to be excavated across the location of the proposed skate park, measuring 30.00m x 1.80m.
- 3.2 If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' at least 1.50m 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).

- 3.6 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.
- 3.7 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.
- 3.8 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.
- 3.9 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.
- 3.10 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed SCCAS/CT during the course of the evaluation).
- 3.11 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.
- 3.12 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.

- 3.13 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies and/or high resolution digital images.
- 3.14 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.
- 3.15 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

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. 6

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 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 7

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

at and Date: 2 December 2009 Reference: / FinboroughRoad-Stowmarket2009 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.

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Appendix 2. Context Information								Silty Silty						
Context	Fill of	Filled by	Trench	Category	Type	Description			Suffor	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Interpretation	
0002				Layer	Topsoil	Dark greyish brown	Friable	Silty clay	P	,		0.3	Modern topsoil	
0003				Layer	Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown	Friable	Silty clay				0.35	Subsoil	
0004				Layer	Natural	Light yellowish brown becoming mid orangey brown	Compact	Clay	Common sub- rounded small to medium chalk fragments; occasional small to medium sub- rounded flint nodules				Natural clay geology; changes from yellowish with till in east half of trench 1 to darker orange with less till in west end. Change c. 5m from east end.	
0005			2	Layer	make up	Light yellowy brown	Friable Suffolk County Archaeologica	Silty clay	Occasional chalk flecks	8.0	0.5	0.2	Layer of redeposited natural clay over topsoil at west end of trench 2 only. Probably part of artificail bank around the current skate park. Petered out c. 0.5m into the trench does not appear in southern baulk.	
0006		0007	2	Cut	Posthole	Circular	U-shaped, near vertical sides with sharp break of slope to concave base			0.36	0.36	0.45	Posthole cutting subsoil 0003. Probably post-medieval or modern, though could not be seen in the topsoil 0002. Might be associated with the play ground.	
0007	0006		2	Fill	Posthole	Dark greyish brown	Friable	Silty clay	Occasional chalk flecks		il	0.45	Single fill of posthole. Becomes a bit mixed towards the base.	