

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2010/074

**Land near Upper Abbey Farm,
Eastbridge Road, Leiston, Suffolk**

LCS 154

Kieron Heard
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HER Information

Planning Application No: C/09/1450

Dates of Fieldwork: 19–20 April 2010

Grid Reference: TM 4515 6477

Funding Body: AMEC Earth & Environmental UK Ltd

Curatorial Officer: Jude Plouviez

Project Officer: Kieron Heard

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Summary

LCS 154, Land near Upper Abbey Farm, Eastbridge Road, Leiston: An evaluation was carried out in advance of the construction of eight wildlife ponds and associated works. Eight trenches (total area 75.80m²) were excavated, representing approximately 7% of the area affected by the proposed development. Prior to the evaluation the site was in agricultural use.

The natural stratum was glacio-fluvial sand. In the northern half of the site this was truncated by two large pits, probably post-medieval quarries.

In the light of these limited results no further archaeological fieldwork is recommended 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

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land near Upper Abbey Farm, Eastbridge Road, Leiston in accordance with an archaeological condition relating to planning permission for the construction of eight wildlife ponds (C/09/1450). AMEC Earth & Environmental UK Ltd commissioned the evaluation on behalf of EDF.

2. Location, geology and topography

The site is centred at National Grid Reference TM 4515 6477 and encompasses an area of approximately 200,000m². It is bounded to the west by Eastbridge Road, and to the north, east and south by agricultural land (Fig. 1).

The published Quaternary geology of the site is glacial till (British Geological Survey, East Anglia, Sheet 52N 00, Quaternary), with Kesgrave sands and gravels indicated just to the east of the site. Deep loam to clay soils of the Melford series overlie the till deposits, and deep, sandy soils of the Newport (4) series overlie the sands and gravels. Ground level across the site undulated gradually between 15m AOD and 19m AOD.

The site is located in an area of Estate Sandlands, as defined in Suffolk County Council's *Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment* (www.suffolklandscape.org.uk).

Some of the key characteristics of this landscape type are as follows:

- Flat or very gently rolling plateaux of freely-draining sandy soils, overlying drift deposits of either glacial or fluvial origin.
- Chalky in parts of the Brecks, but uniformly acid and sandy in the southeast.
- Absence of watercourses.
- Extensive areas of heath land or acid grassland.
- Strongly geometric structure of fields enclosed in the 18th and 19th centuries.
- Large continuous blocks of commercial forestry.
- Characteristic 'pine lines' especially, but not solely, in the Brecks.
- Widespread planting of tree belts and rectilinear plantations.
- Generally a landscape without ancient woodland but there are some isolated and very significant exceptions.

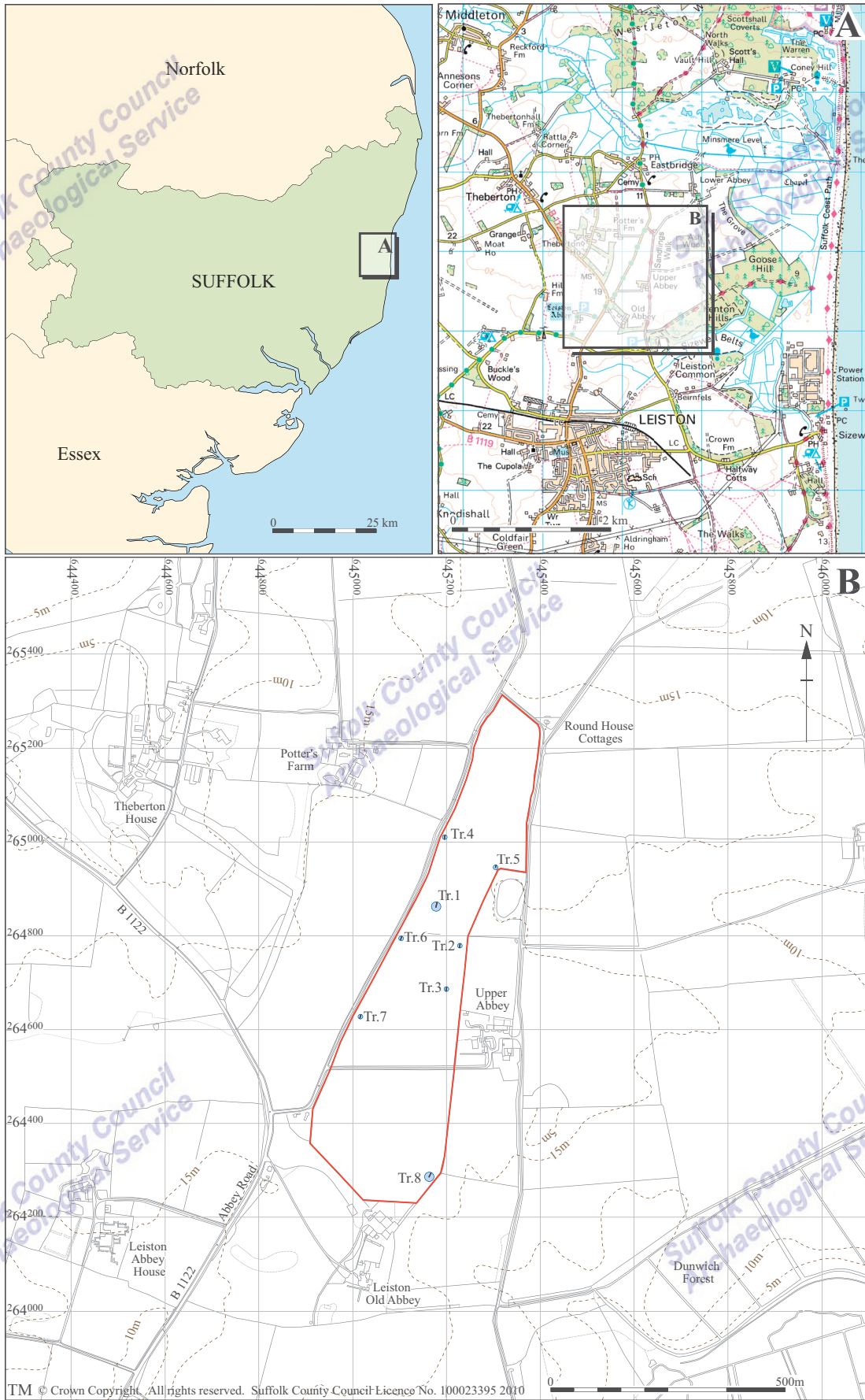


Figure 1. Site location, showing investigation area (red), ponds (blue) and evaluation trenches (black)

3. Archaeological background

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. The only recorded archaeological find within the area of the site is a polished flint axe (LCS 130). Scattered worked flint is recorded to the southeast (LCS 044) and crop mark evidence suggests prehistoric funerary activity in the vicinity with a possible ring ditch to the east (LCS 044) and a mound to the west (THB 004); the latter might be a burial mound or a more recent landscape feature. There are also some surface finds of medieval pottery in fields to the east and southeast of the site (LCS 037, LCS 043).

4. Methodology

The archaeological evaluation took place on 19–20 April 2010 and was conducted generally in accordance with a Brief and Specification produced by Jude Plouviez of SCCAS Conservation team (Plouviez, 2010; Appendix 1) and with reference to a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) by Freddie Scadgell of AMEC Earth & Environmental UK Ltd (Scadgell, 2010).

It should be noted that the Brief and Specification called for evaluation of the site by trial trenching in advance of the construction of the wildlife ponds but the WSI specified an archaeological 'strip and map' exercise during the excavation of the ponds. In the event, and following an on-site discussion with Graham Hinton of ADAS UK Ltd., evaluation by trial trenching was deemed the most appropriate response. This was primarily because at the time the archaeological fieldwork was due to commence the final design of the wildlife ponds had not been decided, and because mechanical plant suitable for stripping large areas of topsoil was not available.

Eight evaluation trenches (Fig. 2) were excavated under direct archaeological supervision using a wheeled JCB mechanical excavator with a back-acting arm fitted with a 1.60m wide ditching bucket. The trenches were between 6.0m and 11.8m long by 1.60m wide and were excavated to depths of between 0.50m and 1.40m below ground level, depending on soil conditions. The trenches were positioned within the areas of the proposed ponds as marked out by Graham Hinton, and the trench locations were planned subsequently using a Leica RTK Global Positioning System.

Mechanical excavation continued to just below the surface of the geological strata, or to a safe working depth in trenches where deep fill deposits were encountered.

A non-ferrous metal-detecting survey of the proposed pond locations was conducted prior to mechanical excavation, and on excavated soils.

Archaeological deposits, soil horizons and natural strata were recorded using a unique sequence of context numbers in the range 0001–0022, under the HER number LCS 154. They were drawn in section (at a scale of 1:20) on 290mm x 320mm sheets of gridded drawing film. Written records (context descriptions, etc) were made on the same sheets. A digital photographic record was made, consisting of high-resolution .jpg images. These images form part of the site archive, referenced under the film code HAB 083–097. Ground levels were recorded using a Leica RTK Global Positioning System.

The eight evaluation trenches covered an area of 75.80m², representing approximately 7% of the total area of the proposed wildlife ponds.

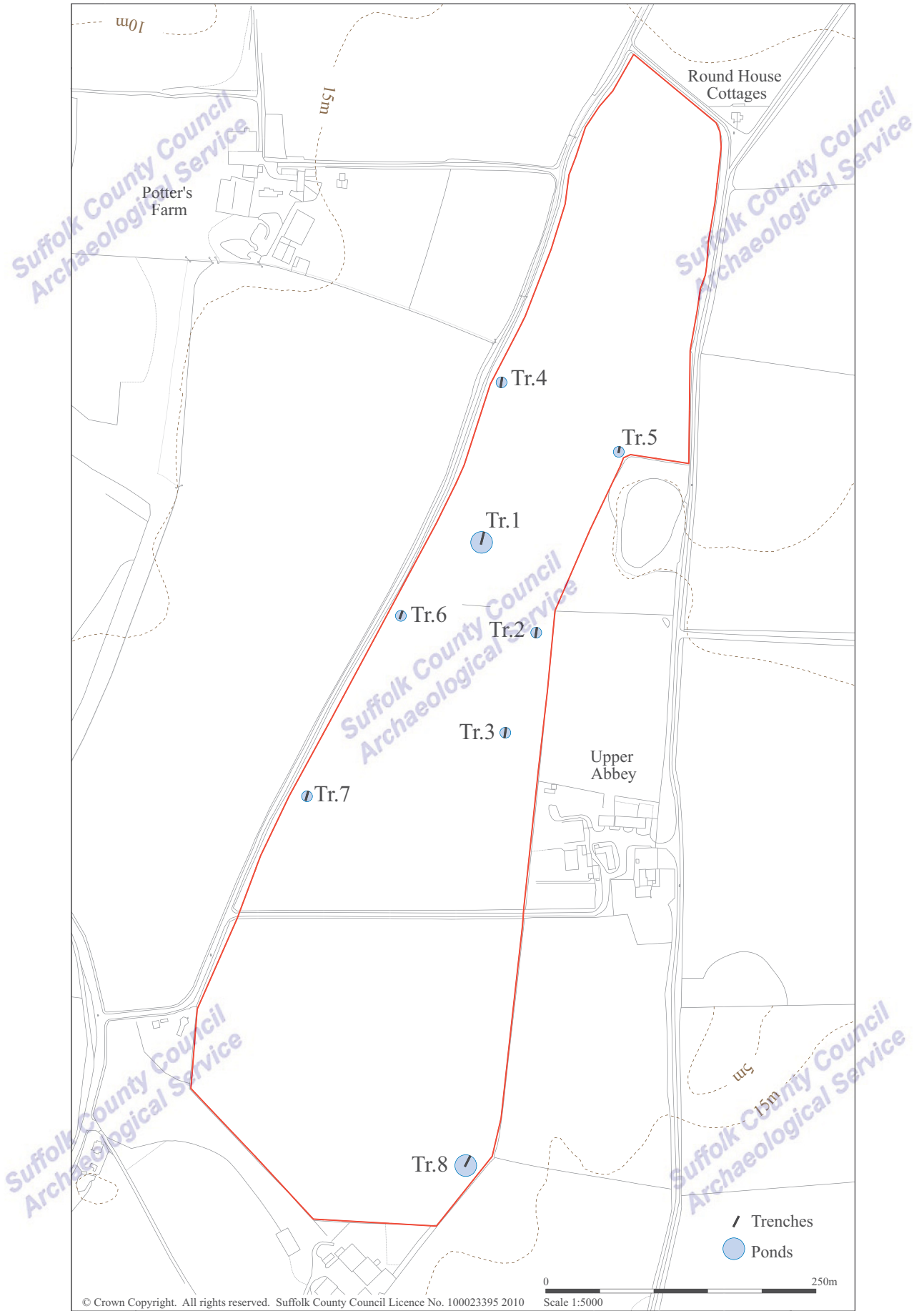


Figure 2. Trench locations

5. Results

5.1 Introduction

Generally the evaluation revealed a straightforward vertical sequence of modern topsoil over geological strata. In two of the trial trenches deep fill deposits were encountered and geological strata were not observed. In the following section the results from each trench are described in detail.

5.2 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Dimensions: 11.80m x 1.60m x up to 1.40m deep

Ground level: 16.33m OD

Deposit	Depth below G.L	Location
Topsoil 0001	0.00m	Trench-wide
Deposit 0002	0.35–0.40m	Trench-wide
Deposit 0003	1.00–1.20m	Trench-wide
Deposit 0004	1.25–1.40m	Observed at N end only

Table 1. Depth of deposits in Trench 1

Deposit descriptions

Trench 1 revealed a vertical sequence of man-made deposits (0004, 0003, 0002) sealed by modern topsoil 0001 (Fig. 3; Plate 1).

0004: The earliest deposit was compact, light yellowish brown clayey silt containing frequent flecks/small fragments of chalk and occasional pebbles. It was observed only at the north end of the trench, sloping down gradually to the south.

0003: Compact, light brownish grey clayey silt containing moderate flecks/small fragments of chalk, occasional small to medium pebbles and flecks/small fragments of abraded red brick (not retained).

0002: Soft, mid greyish brown silty sand containing moderate small to medium pebbles and occasional flecks/small fragments of charcoal and red brick (not retained).

0001: Soft, mid brownish grey clayey sand containing moderate small to medium pebbles and occasional small fragments of brick, tile, glass and obviously modern metal artefacts (not retained).

Trench 2

Dimensions: 10.00m x 1.60m x 0.80m deep (north end), 0.60m deep (south end)

Ground level: 16.75m OD

Deposit	Depth below G.L	Location
Topsoil 0005	0.00m	Trench-wide
Natural stratum 0006	0.35m	North end of trench only
Natural stratum 0007	0.35m	Almost trench-wide
Natural stratum 0008	0.35m	North end of trench only
Natural stratum 0009	0.35m	South end of trench only

Table 2. Depth of deposits in Trench 2

Deposit descriptions

Trench 2 contained various geological deposits (0006, 0007, 0008 & 0009), often quite localised and all underlying modern topsoil 0005 (Fig. 3).

0007: Compact, mid yellowish brown clayey silt with sandy patches, containing occasional small to medium pebbles. This deposit extended almost trench-wide, being absent only from the extreme north end of the trench.

0006: A localised deposit of soft, mottled light yellowish brown and mid brown sand with occasional pebbles, recorded only at the north end of the trench.

0008: A localised deposit of compact, light brownish grey clayey silt with frequent flecks and small fragments of chalk, at the north end of the trench. It was overlaid by deposits 0006 and 0007.

0009: Soft, mid brown medium sand containing occasional small to medium pebbles. It was up to 0.18m thick, filling a shallow hollow in the surface of underlying deposit 0007.

0005: Soft and friable, mid brownish grey silty sand containing moderate small to medium pebbles and occasional modern artefacts, none of which were retained.

Trench 3

Dimensions: 10.00m x 1.60m x 0.60m deep (north end), 0.80m deep (south end)

Ground level: 17.41m OD

Deposit	Depth below G.L	Location
Topsoil 0005	0.00m	Trench-wide
Natural stratum 0010	0.35–0.40m	Trench-wide

Table 3. Depth of deposits in Trench 3

Deposit descriptions

Trench 3 revealed a simple vertical sequence of deposits – topsoil 0005 over natural stratum 0010 (Fig. 3).

0010: Soft, mottled light yellowish brown and mid greyish brown sand containing moderate small to medium pebbles.

0005: Soft and friable, mid brownish grey silty sand containing moderate small to medium pebbles and occasional modern artefacts, none of which were retained.

Trench 4

Dimensions: 10.00m x 1.60m x up to 1.20m deep

Ground level: 16.01m OD

Deposit	Depth below G.L	Location
Topsoil 0011	0.00m	Trench-wide
Deposit 0012	0.45m	Trench-wide
Deposit 0013	0.86m	Observed in centre of trench only

Table 4. Depth of deposits in Trench 4

Deposit descriptions

Trench 4 revealed a vertical sequence of man-made deposits (0013, 0012) sealed by modern topsoil 0011 (Fig. 4; Plate 2).

0013: Soft, mid greyish brown slightly silty sand containing horizontal lenses of light yellowish grey clay/silt with frequent flecks of chalk and occasional fine pebbles. 0013 had an indistinct interface with overlying deposit 0012.

0012: Soft, mid greyish brown slightly silty sand containing moderate small to medium pebbles and occasional small fragments of abraded red brick (not retained).

0011: Soft, mid brownish grey clayey sand containing moderate pebbles and occasional small fragments of charcoal and red brick (not retained).

Trench 5

Dimensions: 6.00m x 1.60m x 0.70m deep

Ground level: 16.80m OD

Deposit	Depth below G.L	Location
Topsoil 0014	0.00m	Trench-wide
Natural stratum 0015	0.30m	Trench-wide
Natural stratum 0016	0.30m	Trench-wide

Table 5. Depth of deposits in Trench 5

Deposit descriptions

Trench 5 revealed a simple vertical sequence of deposits – topsoil 0014 over natural strata 0015 and 0016 (Fig. 4). The natural strata occurred as irregular patches and sinuous veins, distributed randomly throughout the trench.

0015: Stiff, light brownish grey clay/silt with occasional pebbles and moderate chalk flecks.

0016: Compact, mid yellowish brown clayey sand with occasional pebbles.

0014: Soft, mid brownish grey clayey sand containing moderate pebbles and occasional small fragments of charcoal, brick and tile, and modern metal artefacts (not retained).

Trench 6

Dimensions: 8.00m x 1.60m x 0.60m deep

Ground level: 17.13m OD

Deposit	Depth below G.L	Location
Topsoil 0017	0.00m	Trench-wide
Natural stratum 0018	0.30m	Trench-wide

Table 6. Depth of deposits in Trench 6

Deposit descriptions

Trench 6 revealed a simple vertical sequence of deposits – topsoil 0017 over natural stratum 0018 (Fig. 4; Plate 3).

0018: Irregular patches or sinuous veins of soft, mid yellowish brown sand and soft, light brownish yellow clayey sand with moderate flecks and small fragments of chalk.

0017: Soft, mid brownish grey silty sand with occasional pebbles and modern artefacts (not retained).

Trench 7

Dimensions: 9.00m x 1.60m x 0.50m deep

Ground level: 18.73m OD

Deposit	Depth below G.L	Location
Topsoil 0017	0.00m	Trench-wide
Natural stratum 0019	0.30m	Trench-wide

Table 7. Depth of deposits in Trench 7

Deposit descriptions

Trench 6 revealed a simple vertical sequence of deposits – topsoil 0017 over natural stratum 0019 (Fig. 4).

0019: Soft, mid yellowish brown sand with occasional pebbles.

0017: Soft, mid brownish grey silty sand with occasional pebbles and modern artefacts (not retained).

Trench 8

Dimensions: 11.00m x 1.60m x 0.60m deep

Ground level: 16.51m OD

Deposit	Depth below G.L	Location
Topsoil 0020	0.00m	Trench-wide
Natural stratum 0021	0.30m	North end of trench only
Natural stratum 0022	0.40m	Trench-wide

Table 8. Depth of deposits in Trench 8

Deposit descriptions

Trench 8 revealed a simple vertical sequence of deposits – topsoil 0020 over natural strata 0021 and 0022 (Fig. 4; Plate 4).

0022: Compact, mid yellowish brown sandy clay with some large (>1m wide) and irregular patches of soft, mid greyish brown sand and some sinuous veins of light brownish yellow clayey sand with frequent chalk flecks.

0021: Soft, mid to dark brown silty sand with occasional pebbles. This deposit overlaid 0022, but only at the north end of the trench.

0020: Soft, mid brownish grey silty sand with occasional pebbles.

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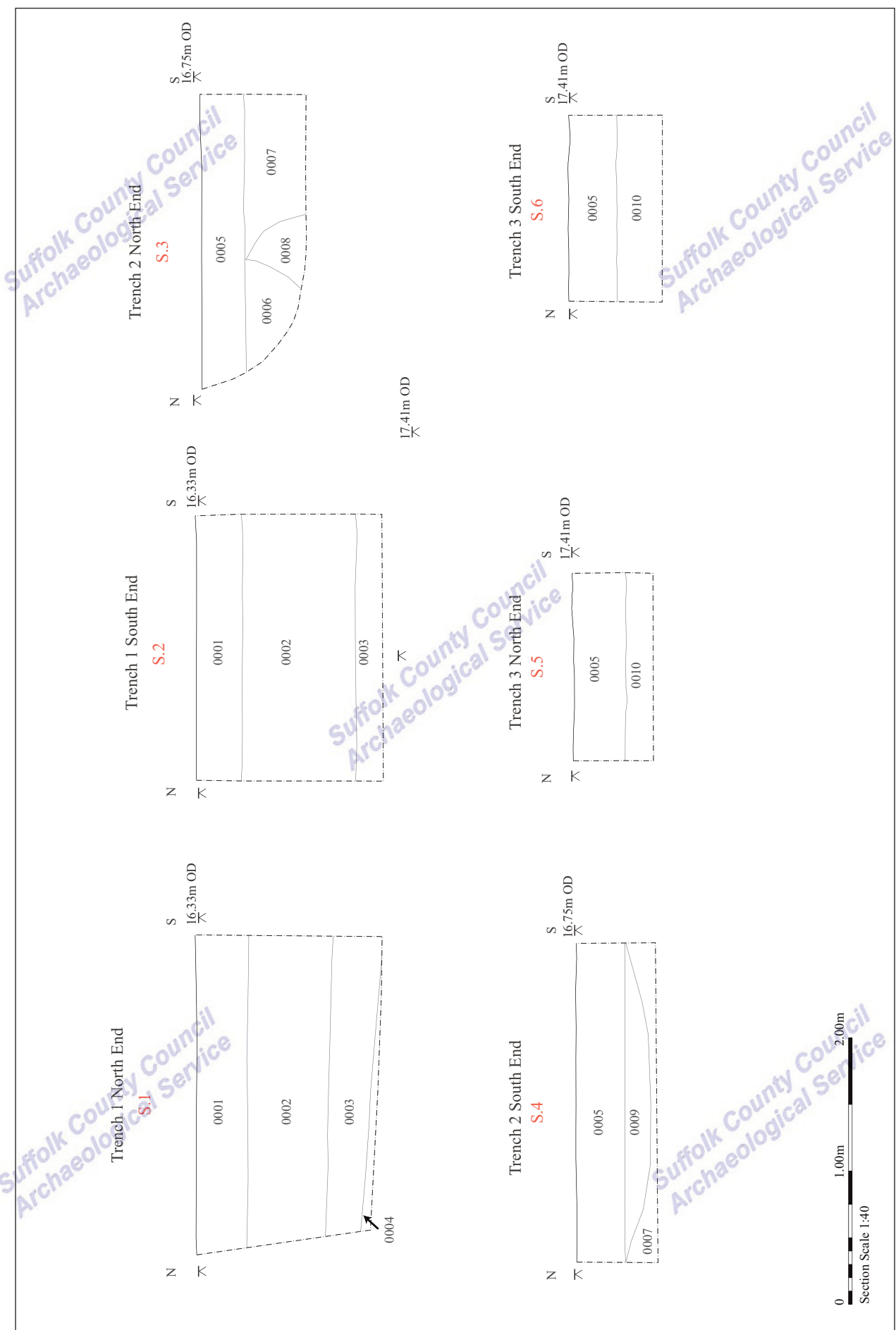


Figure 3. Illustrated Sections

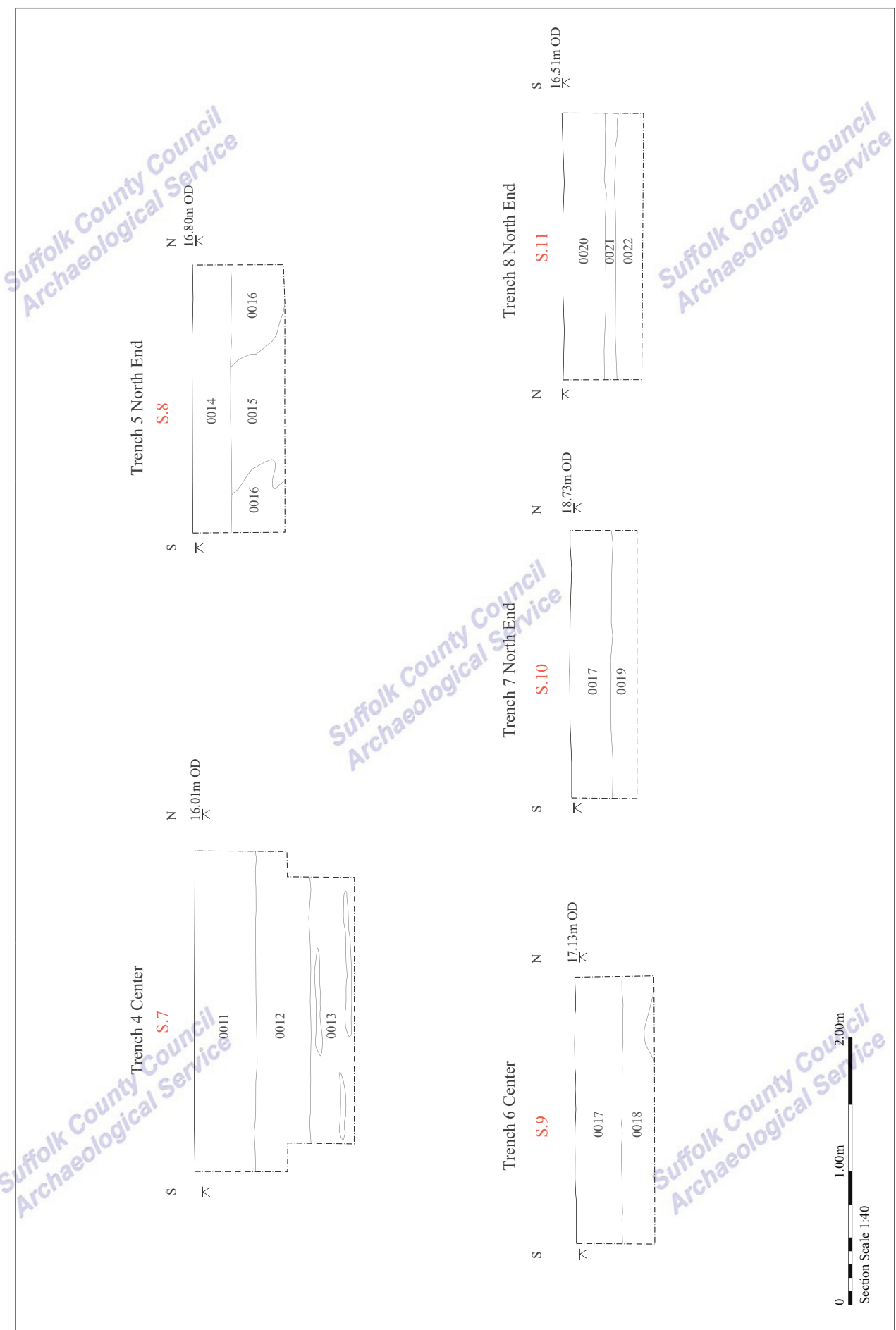


Figure 4. Illustrated Sections continued



Plate 1. West-facing section at the north end of Trench 1, showing a deep sequence of fill deposits (1m scale)



Plate 2. East-facing section in the centre of Trench 4, showing a deep sequence of fill deposits (1m scale)



Plate 3. General view of Trench 6 looking northwest, showing typical variations in the natural strata



Plate 4. West-facing section at the north end of Trench 8, showing a typical sequence of topsoil over natural strata (0.5m scale)

6. Discussion

The natural strata varied considerably across the site but can be characterised generally as glacio-fluvial sands, often with significant clay content and containing discrete pockets or veins of chalky till. Generally these deposits were overlaid directly by 0.30–0.40m of modern topsoil, indicating that recent agriculture has destroyed any evidence for the natural soil profiles and former land surfaces that must have existed on the site.

In Trenches 1 and 4 the natural strata have been truncated to depths in excess of 1.50m and 1.20m respectively. Sequences of dumped deposits containing occasional charcoal and brick fragments represent the backfilling of these areas of truncation.

Given that there is a large, disused quarry pit (presumably for the exploitation of the Kesgrave sand and gravel beds) immediately to the east of the site (see Figure 2) it is suggested that the truncated areas identified in Trenches 1 and 4 represent former quarry pits, albeit on a smaller scale. As noted above, both trenches were located within slightly depressed areas of ground that extended beyond the limits of the evaluation trenches and presumably provided an indication of the original extents of the pits.

The brick fragments found in the fill deposits demonstrate that the pits were backfilled in the post-medieval period; since the pits are not shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of c. 1880 they must have been backfilled before that date.

7. Conclusions and recommendations

The evaluation has revealed two large pits, probably post-medieval quarries, in the northern half of the site. The quarrying will have destroyed any evidence for earlier activity that might have existed in those areas of the site. Elsewhere the evaluation showed a simple sequence of modern topsoil over natural strata, with no evidence for earlier activity on the site.

In the light of these limited results, and following discussions with the Curatorial Officer, it is recommended that no further archaeological fieldwork should be undertaken 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 should be published in the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History.

8. Archive deposition

Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Ipswich

Digital archive: SCCAS Ipswich

Finds archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

9. Acknowledgements and list of contributors

Freddie Scadgell of AMEC Earth & Environmental UK Ltd commissioned the archaeological project on behalf of EDF. Graham Hinton of ADAS UK Ltd facilitated the fieldwork.

Rhodri Gardner managed the archaeological project and Kieron Heard conducted the fieldwork (both of SCCAS, Field Team).

Graphics are by Ellie Hillen (SCCAS, Graphics Assistant).

10. Bibliography

Scadgell, F., 2010, *Written Scheme of Investigation: Sizewell Archaeological Watching Brief on Wildlife Ponds*, AMEC (unpubl)

Plouviez, J., 2010, *Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trench: Land near Upper Abbey Farm, Eastbridge Road, Leiston*, SCCAS (unpubl)

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

Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation by trial trench

Land near Upper Abbey Farm, Eastbridge Road, Leiston

The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety and other responsibilities, see paragraphs 1.7 & 1.8.

This is the brief for the first part of a programme of archaeological work. There is likely to be a requirement for additional work, this will be the subject of another brief.

1. Background

1.1 Planning consent [C/09/1450] has been given for the construction of eight wildlife ponds and associated works on land to north and south of Upper Abbey Farm, Leiston. The ponds, over 1m deep, will impact on c.1400 sq m. Only a diagrammatic plan is currently available showing proposed locations of the ponds.

1.2 The planning consent contains a condition (no.2) requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological work before development begins (Planning Policy Guidance 16, paragraph 30 condition). **An archaeological evaluation of the application area is required as the first part of such a programme of archaeological work; decisions on the need for, and scope of, any further work will be based upon the results of the evaluation and will be the subject of additional briefs..**

1.3 The development area is centred at TM 451648 on relatively high ground at 15mOD, overlooking the Sizebell Belts valley to the south/south-east. The soils are shown as deep loam to clay (Melford 571o) with sandy (Newport4 551g) immediately to the east. The only archaeological material recorded within the area is the findspot of a polished flint axe (LCS 130); further scattered worked flint is recorded to the south-east (LCS 044). Cropmark evidence suggests prehistoric funerary activity in the vicinity with a possible ring ditch to the east (LCS 044) and a mound to the west (THB 004) might be either a burial mound or a more recent landscape feature. There are also some finds of surface pottery of medieval date in fields to the east and south-east (LCS 037, 043). There are roads and routes around several of the development area boundaries which have potential for dispersed medieval roadside settlement, including the Grad2 listed Upper Abbey farmhouse (17th century timber framed) on the east side of the development.

There is therefore moderately high potential for archaeological deposits, particularly of prehistoric and medieval date, within the development area.

1.4 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.

- 1.5 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.
- 1.6 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Project Design or Written Scheme of Investigation (PD/WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the PD/WSI as satisfactory. The PD/WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met.
- 1.7 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 this office before execution.
- 1.8 The responsibility for identifying any restraints on field-work (e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c.) rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such restraints or imply that the target area is freely available.

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 natural soil processes. Define the potential for existing damage to archaeological deposits. Define the potential for colluvial/alluvial deposits, their impact and potential to mask any archaeological deposit. Define the potential for artificial soil deposits and their impact on any archaeological deposit.
- 2.4 Establish the potential for waterlogged organic deposits in the proposal area. Define the location and level of such deposits and their vulnerability to damage by development where this is defined.

- 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 the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (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.
- 2.10 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 over 5% by area of the development area and shall be positioned to sample all areas of proposed pond excavation. Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method. A 5m length should be positioned on each of the six proposed 10m ponds and a 10m length on each of the two 20m ponds. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.8m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated. If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' must be used. The trench design must be approved by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service before field work begins.
- 3.2 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine fitted with toothless bucket and other equipment. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.
- 3.3 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 further excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.

- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 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.
- 3.6 The contractor shall 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 R Ballantyne, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy and Wiltshire 1994) is available.
- 3.7 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.
- 3.8 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.
- 3.9 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed with the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service during the course of the evaluation).
- 3.10 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.
- “Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England” English Heritage and the Church of England 2005 provides advice and defines a level of practice which should be followed whatever the likely belief of the buried individuals.*
- 3.11 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. Any variations from this must be agreed with the Conservation Team.
- 3.12 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies or high resolution digital photographs (min 5 megapixel).
- 3.13 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.

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 the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service.
- 4.2 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors).
- 4.3 A general Health and Safety Policy must be provided, with detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this particular site.
- 4.4 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 4.5 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* and for *Field Evaluations* 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 data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Historic Environment Record.
- 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 archaeological work 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. 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 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*. The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County HER if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.

- 5.8 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.
- 5.9 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 the Conservation Team, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 5.10 County HER sheets must be completed, as per the county HER manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 5.11 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.
- 5.12 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the HER. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

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Date: 20th Nov 2010

Reference: SpecEval Trenching_UpperAbbeyFarm_JP_Nov2009.doc

This brief and specification remains valid for 12 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. Contents of the stratigraphic archive

Type	Quantity	Format
Section drawing sheets	4	290 x 320mm drawing film
Digital images (HAB-083 to HAB-097)	15	3008 x 2000 pixel .jpg
This evaluation report (SCCAS report no. 2010/074)	1	A4 wire-bound

Appendix 3. Digital image register

Code	Description
HAB-083.jpg	West-facing section at north end of Trench 1 (1m scale)
HAB-084.jpg	General view of Trench 1, looking northeast
HAB-085.jpg	West-facing section at north end of Trench 2 (0.5m scale)
HAB-086.jpg	General view of Trench 2, looking northeast
HAB-087.jpg	West-facing section at north end of Trench 3 (0.5m scale)
HAB-088.jpg	General view of Trench 3, looking northeast
HAB-089.jpg	East-facing section at north end of Trench 5 (0.5m scale)
HAB-090.jpg	General view of Trench 4, looking northwest
HAB-091.jpg	East-facing section in centre of Trench 4 (1m scale)
HAB-092.jpg	East-facing section just north of centre of Trench 6 (0.5m scale)
HAB-093.jpg	General view of Trench 6, looking northwest
HAB-094.jpg	West-facing section at north end of Trench 7 (0.5m scale)
HAB-095.jpg	General view of Trench 7, looking north
HAB-096.jpg	West-facing section at north end of Trench 8 (0.5m scale)
HAB-097.jpg	General view of Trench 8, looking northeast