

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2010/081

Theberton Hall Farm Theberton THB 021

M. Sommers
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HER Information

Planning Application No: C/10/0665

Date of Fieldwork: 26th and 27th April 2010

Grid Reference: TM 4406 6669

Funding Body: Prime Irrigation (on behalf of client)

Curatorial Officer: Dr Jess Tipper

Project Officer: Mark Sommers

Oasis Reference: suffolkc1-76556

Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:
<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out at Theberton Hall Farm, Theberton, in advance of the construction of a proposed agricultural reservoir. Four trenches with a total length of 120m were excavated across the reservoir site which revealed the presence of a number of ditches, one of which yielded two sherds of medieval pottery, two pits and a possible posthole from which a single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered. The possible posthole suggests the presence of a medieval structure within the footprint of the proposed reservoir.

The other features were undated although one of the ditches is located on the line of a field boundary marked on early OS maps. Due to the leached nature of their fills, two of the ditches are likely to be prehistoric in origin. The natural subsoil consisted of yellow-orange, slightly silty, sand and gravel, and generally occurred at a depths ranging from 0.5m to 0.7m. (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service for Prime Irrigation).

1. Introduction

An agricultural reservoir has been proposed on land at Theberton Hall Farm, Theberton. Planning permission has been sought (C/10/0665) but is yet to be granted although the client has been advised that any consent would be conditional upon an agreed programme of archaeological work taking place prior to the commencement of the development.

The first stage of the programme of work, as specified in the Brief and Specification produced by Dr. J. Tipper, of the Suffolk County Council Conservation Team, (Appendix 1) is the undertaking of a trenched evaluation in order to ascertain what levels of archaeological evidence may be present within the development area and to inform any mitigation strategies that may be deemed necessary.

The National Grid Reference for the approximate centre of the site is TM 4406 6669. Figure 1 shows a location plan of the site.

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service's Field Team who were commissioned and funded by the main contractor, Prime Irrigation, on behalf of their client.

2. Geology and topography

The site is situated on a gentle, south facing, slope which runs down to the edge of the flood plain of the Minsmere River, which the site overlooks.

The underlying geology comprises occasionally waterlogged clays to sandy loams overlying a glacial till of chalky boulder clay.

The site is located in a rural area away from the core of the village of Theberton. The local parish church of St Peter is located some 800m to the southwest.

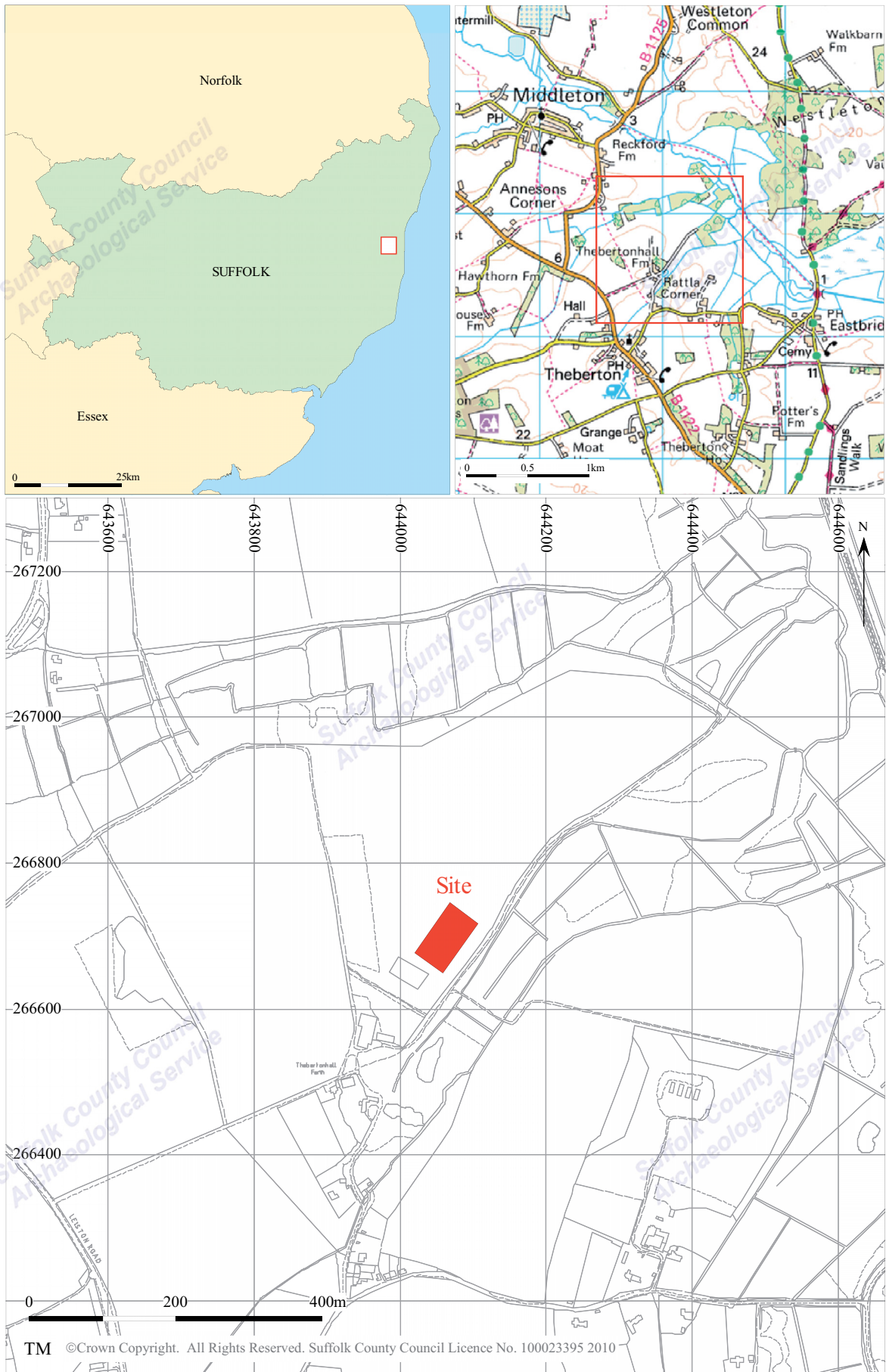


Figure 1. Site location plan

3. Archaeological and historical background

There are no known sites recorded on the County Historic Environment Record (HER) within the proposed site or in the immediate vicinity but it is situated in an area overlooking the Minsmere River floodplain that is topographically favourable for early settlement. Consequently, this site is considered to have a high potential for there to be archaeological deposits present within the reservoir footprint.

This is a relatively large development that will entail the complete destruction of the land surface and any archaeological remains that may be present.

4. Methodology

The trial trenches were machine excavated down to the level of the natural subsoil using the rear arm of a wheeled 'JCB' type excavator fitted with a 1.5m wide toothless ditching bucket.

The machining of the trenches was closely observed throughout in order to identify archaeological features and deposits and to recover any artefacts that might be revealed. Excavation continued until the undisturbed natural subsoil was encountered, the exposed surface of which was then examined for cut features or deposits. Any features/deposits identified were sampled through hand excavation in order to determine their depth and shape and to recover datable artefacts. All features excavated were planned at a scale of 1:50 and their cross-sections drawn at a scale of 1:20. Once the features had been sampled the excavated sections were enlarged to maximise the chances of retrieving datable artefacts. Samples of the fills were taken from the majority of the features to enable further analysis if deemed to be useful.

Following excavation the nature of the overburden was recorded, the trench locations were plotted and the depths were noted. A photographic record of the work undertaken was also compiled using a 10 megapixel digital camera.

5. Results

Four trenches with a total length of 120m were excavated (Fig. 2). They were numbered 1 to 4 in order of their excavation.

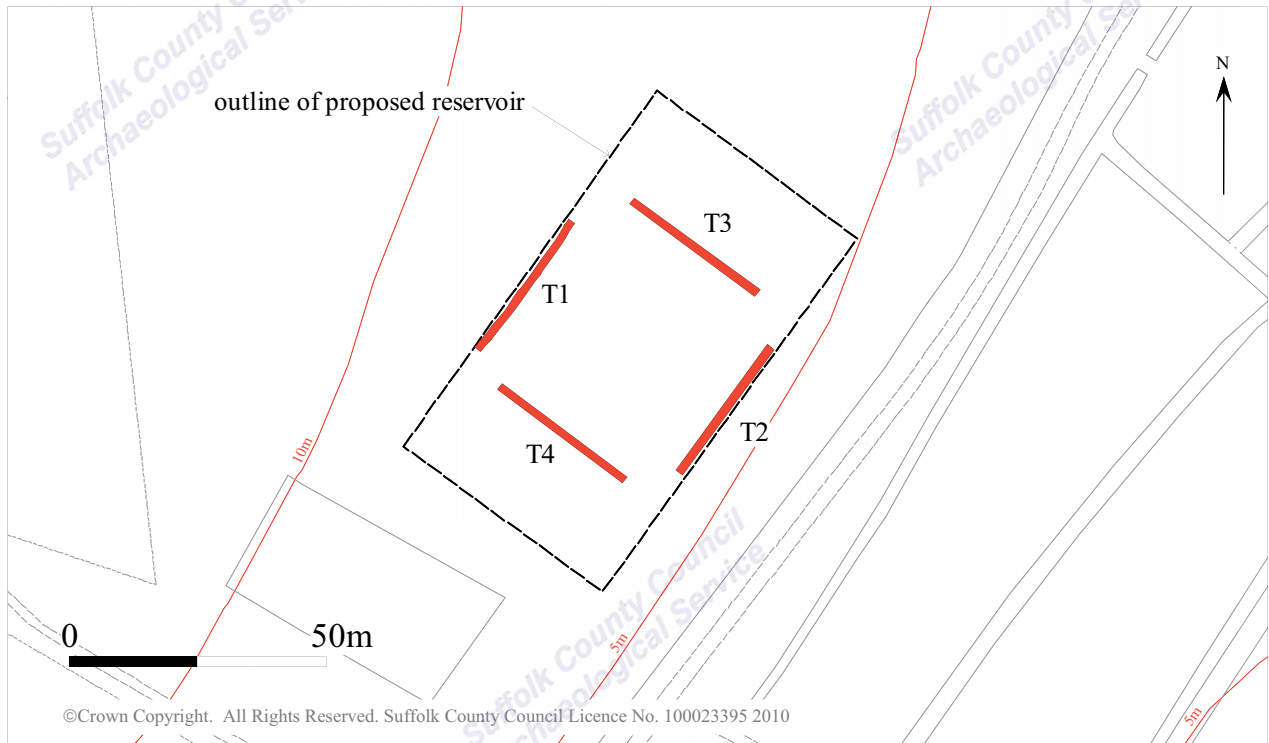


Figure 2. Trench location plan
(with contours at 5m vertical intervals)

The natural subsoil comprised yellow and orange mottled sand and gravel with a small silt component and was encountered at depths ranging from 0.5m, in Trenches 1, 3 and 4, to 0.7m in Trench 2. The overburden comprised c. 0.3m of plough soil (0002) over a layer of grey-brown sand (0003). Cut into the surface of the natural subsoil a number of archaeological features were revealed in Trenches 1, 2 and 3. Within these trenches a total of ten features were identified for which twenty-six context numbers were issued (see Appendix 2 for the full list). The trenches are described below:

Trench 1 was aligned southwest-northeast and was 30m in length. See Fig 3 for a plan of this trench and Fig. 6 for the recorded sections. The features were as follows:

Ditch 0004: A linear feature interpreted as a ditch. It cut the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.38m and was 0.8m wide (Plate I). Fill (0005) comprised pale to mid grey sand. No finds were recovered from the fill. A sample of the fill was retained.

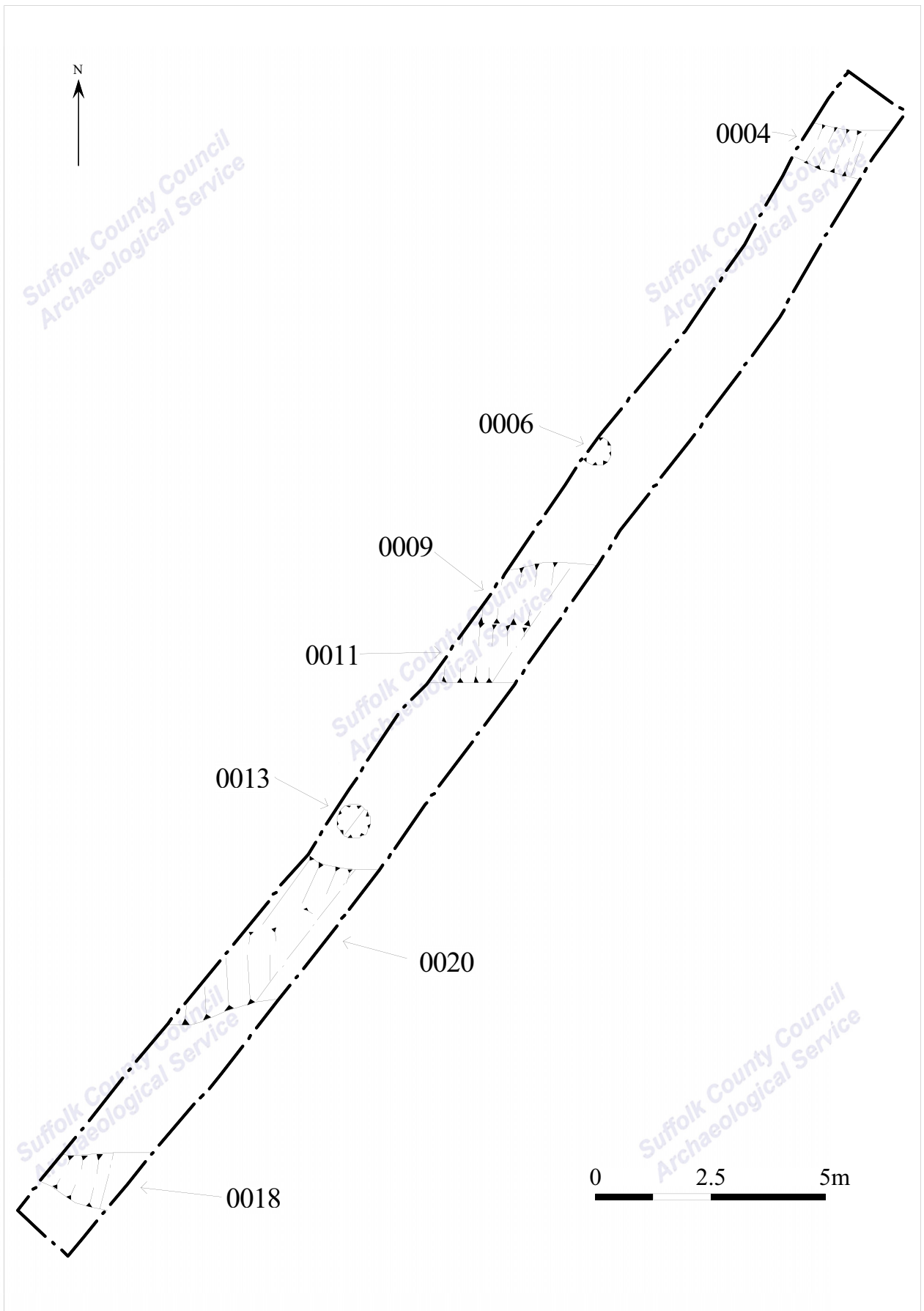


Figure 3. Plan of Trench 1

- Pit 0006: A circular shaped feature with near vertical sides and a rounded base. It measured 0.8m in diameter and cut the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.35m (Plate II). It contained a single fill (0007) which comprised pale to mid grey sand with occasional orange mottles and charcoal flecks. No finds were recovered from the fill.
- Ditches 0009 and 0011: Initially interpreted as a single large linear feature but upon excavation was found to be two parallel ditches, identified as cuts 0009 and 0011 (Plate III). Ditch 0009 cut the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.25m whilst 0011 cut to a depth of 0.3m Each was c.1.3m wide and both were filled with a mottled grey brown sand (fills 0010 and 0012 respectively). No finds were recovered from the fills. Samples were retained from both fills.
- Pit 0013: A circular shaped feature with near vertical sides and a rounded base. It measured 0.7m in diameter and cut the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.35m (Plate IV). The primary fill comprised mid brown sand (0015) which was overlain by a deposit of charcoal rich brown/black sand (0015). No finds were recovered from the fill. A sample of the charcoal rich layer (0014) was retained.
- Ditch 0018: Linear feature interpreted as a ditch. Measures c.1.2m in width close to the southeast edge of the trench reducing to 0.8m at the northwest edge (Plate VI). Cuts the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.18m. The fill (0019) comprised pale to mid grey sand from which no finds were recovered. A sample of the fill was retained.
- ?Ditch 0020: Initially interpreted as a linear feature although upon excavation was found to have an irregular shaped base and could, therefore, possibly be interpreted as a pit (Plate VII). The fill (0021) comprised a mottled mid to light grey brown sand from which no finds were recovered. Possible cut through layer 0003 which could suggest a relatively modern date although this was not conclusive. No finds were recovered. A sample of the fill was retained.

Trench 2 was aligned southwest-northeast and was 30m in length. This trench was at the lowest part of the site and the natural subsoil was not encountered at a depth of 0.7m due to a thickening of layer 0003, presumably due to soil creep. See Fig 4 for a plan of this trench and Fig. 6 for the recorded section. A single feature was identified in this trench, described as follows:

- Ditch 0016: A linear feature interpreted as a ditch. It cut the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.5m and was 1.15m wide (Plate V). The fill (0017) comprised pale brown sand mottled with orange and yellow sand deposit with no distinguishable layering. Two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the fill. A sample of the fill was retained. This feature was clearly sealed beneath layer 0003.

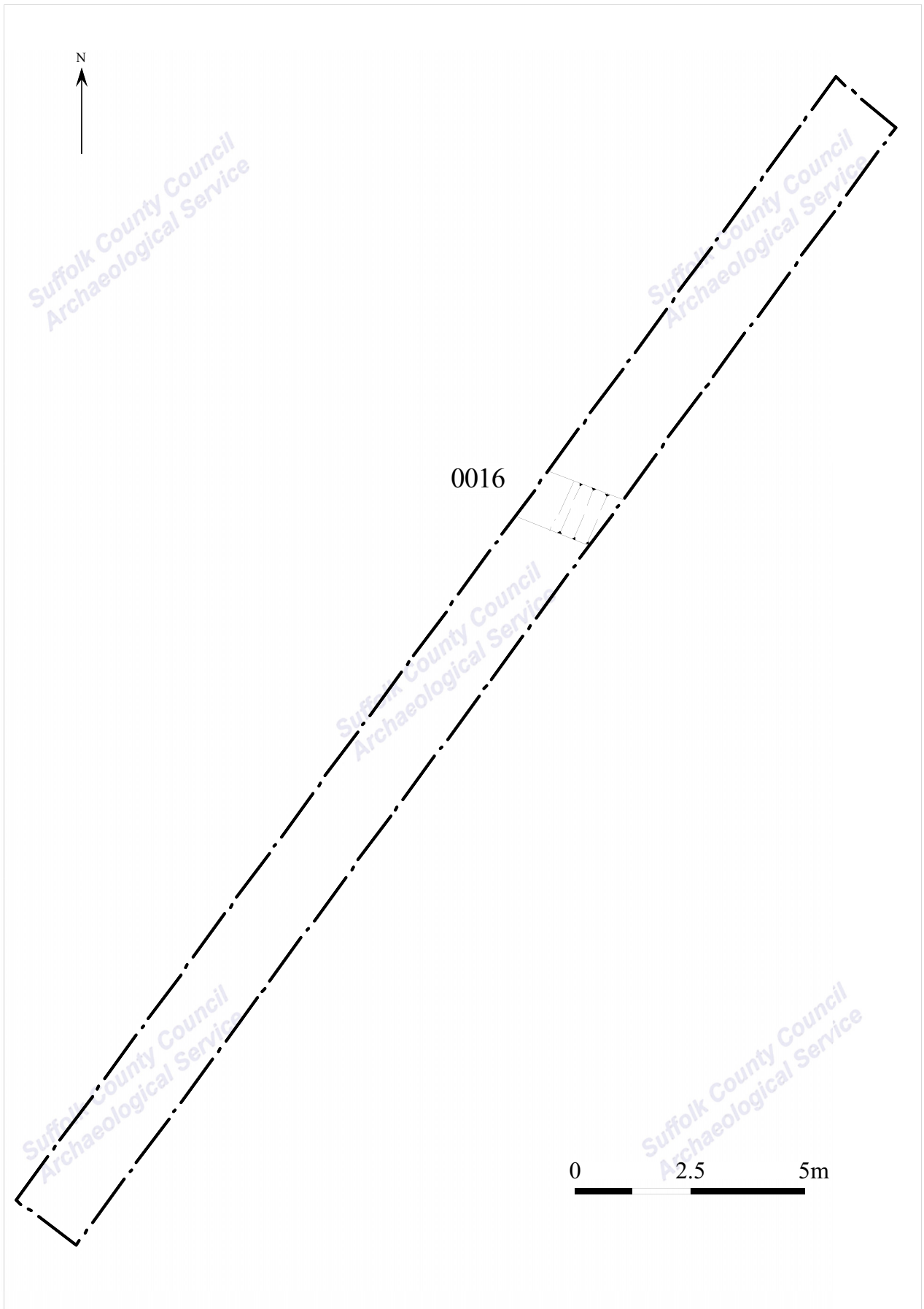


Figure 4. Plan of Trench 2

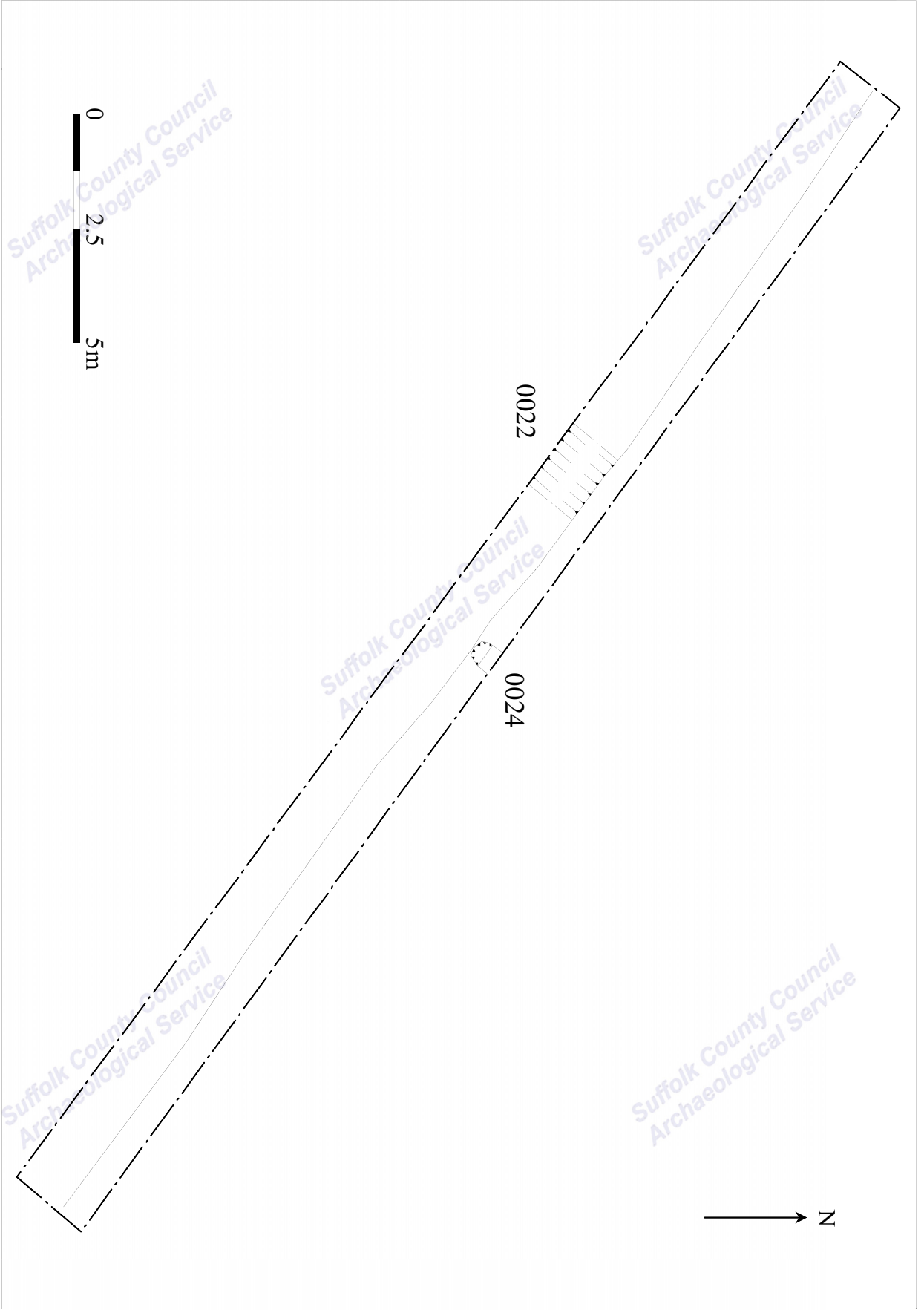


Figure 5. Plan of Trench 3

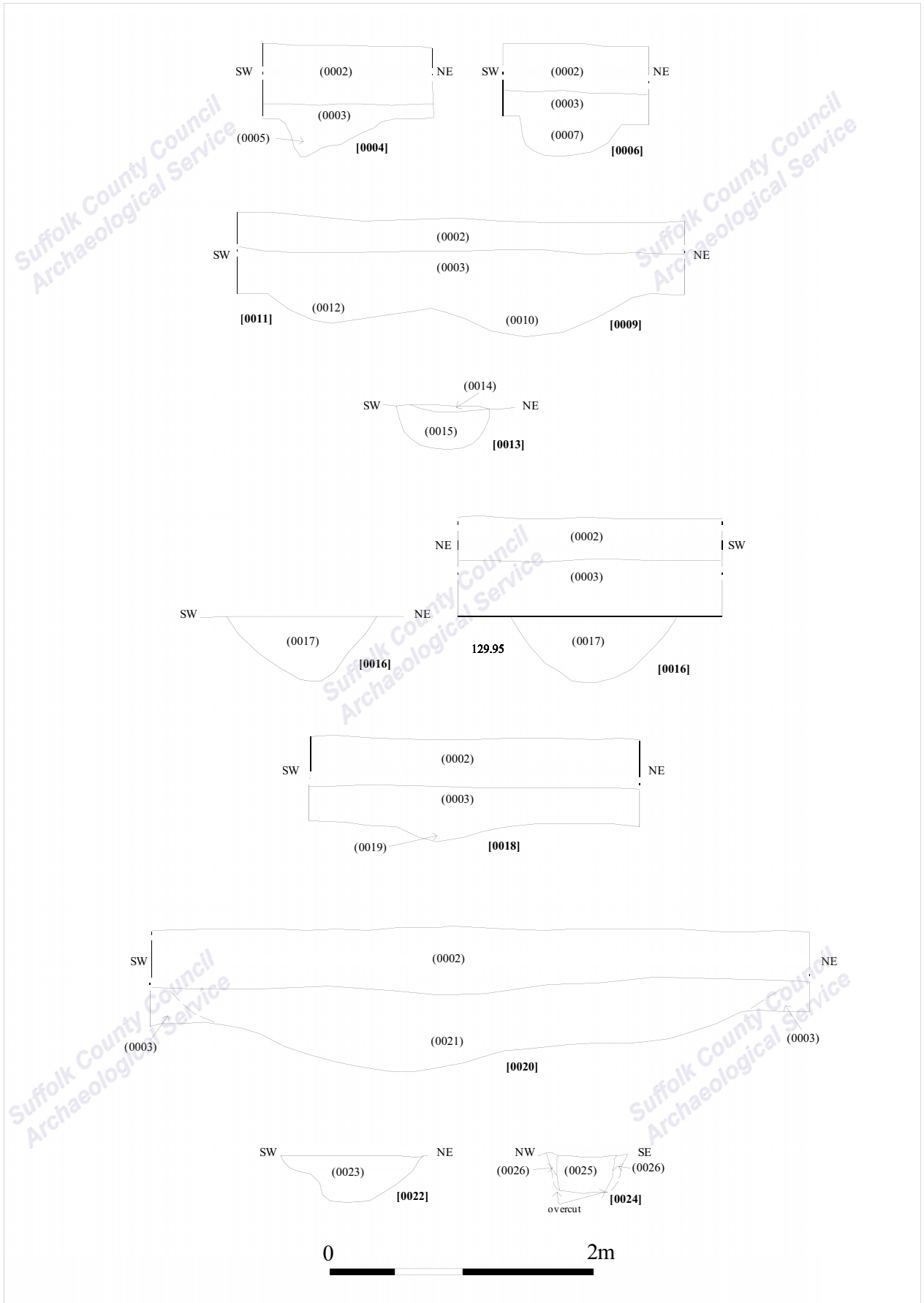


Figure 6. Sections

Trench 3 was aligned northwest-southeast and was 30m in length. See Fig 5 for a plan of this trench and Fig. 6 for the recorded sections. The features were as follows:

- Ditch 0022: A linear feature, aligned with and running the full length of the trench. Interpreted as a ditch. It cut the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.38m and was 1.1m wide (Plate VIII). The fill (0023) comprised dark to mid brown sand from which a fragment of a possible quern stone was recovered. A sample of the fill was retained.
- ?Posthole 0024 A feature situated on the northeastern edge of the trench. Measured 0.6m in width but was of an unknown length. It was cut to a depth of 0.28m and had a flat base (Plate IX). The sides initially sloped before becoming near vertical. On the surface the fill consisted of grey clay with chalk flecks (0026) surrounding a central area of mid brown sand (0025) giving the appearance of a clay-packed posthole with a central post-pipe. A single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from the central fill.

Trench 4 was aligned northwest-southeast and was 30m in length (Plate X). No features were identified within this trench and no finds were recovered from the spoil.

6. Finds and environmental evidence

Richenda Goffin, April 2010

Introduction

Finds were collected from four contexts, as shown in the table below.

Context	Pottery		Fired Clay		Lava stone		Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	
0001	2	123					Med, unstratified
0017	2	27	1	8			L13th-14th C
0023					2	22	Undated
0025	1	4					Medieval
Total	5	154	1	8	2	22	

Table 1 Finds quantities

Pottery

Five fragments of pottery were recovered from the evaluation (154g). The small group is mainly medieval in date. A single abraded sherd of medieval coarseware similar to Hollesley type ware was an unstratified find, together with a rod handle fragment from a Late medieval and transitional ware cauldron or jar dating to the 15th-16th century. A single sooted body sherd of a wheelthrown off-white coarseware dating to the L12th-

14th century was present in pit/post-hole 0025. A large abraded sherd of medieval greyware and a small reduced sandyware with external knifetrimming present in ditchfill 0017 is also of this date.

Fired clay

A small undiagnostic fragment of fired clay made in a buff and orange silty fabric with occasional chalk inclusions was present in ditchfill 0017. Although not intrinsically datable, it is likely to be medieval.

Lava stone

Two small fragments of Rhenish lavastone were identified in ditchfill 0023. One of these has a flat surface, which may represent a small part of the grinding surface of a domestic hand-quern. No diagnostic features could be recorded, and so the stone cannot be dated. Lavastone from the Rhineland was imported to East Anglia and beyond in large quantities during the Roman, Mid-Late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods

Finds Discussion

A small number of medieval coarsewares was recovered from the evaluation, three of which are light grey and buff coloured wheelthrown greywares typical of medieval products from the eastern side of the county. The fired clay and lavastone may also be medieval, although the fragments cannot be associated with any datable finds. The artefacts were mainly found in the fills of a ditch which, together with a pit/post-hole may be evidence of medieval activity in the area of the farm.

Environmental Evidence

A number of soil samples were taken from the fills of the following features: 0004, 0009, 0011, 0013, 0016, 0018, 0020 and 0022 to assess their potential to yield useful environmental data. These are currently being analysed and the results are pending.

7. Discussion

A limited amount of evidence for earlier activity was recovered from the excavated trenches. See Fig. 7 for a phased plan of the recorded features.

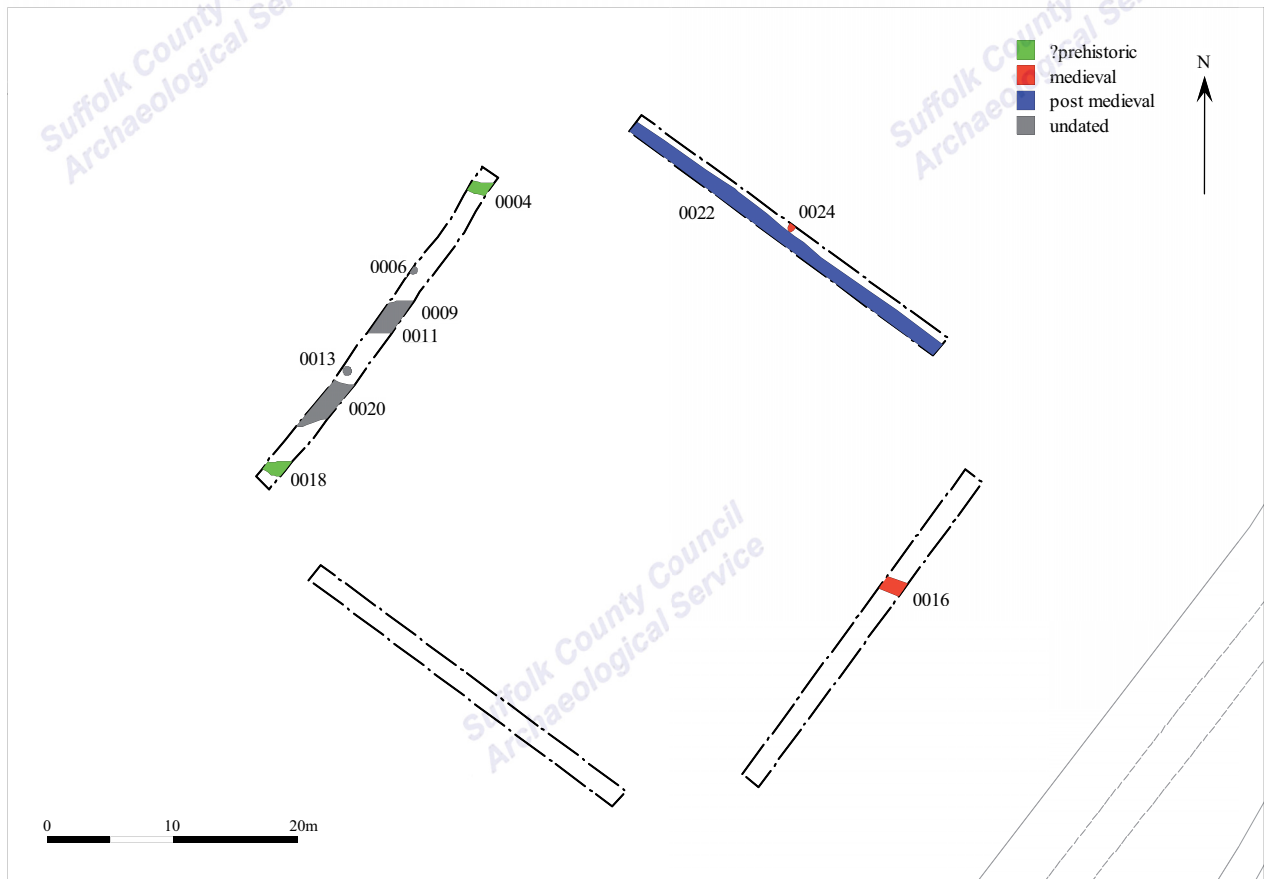


Figure 7. Phased plan

Two of the ditches, numbers 0004 and 0018, had very pale grey sand fills. Neither yielded any finds but their shallow nature and the sand fills leached of colour suggest a possible prehistoric date.

Only Ditch 0016 and the possible posthole, 0024, yielded any datable finds. The ditch contained two sherds of late 13th – 14th century pottery. Both came from well into the feature's homogenous fill and indicate a probable deliberate backfilling during the medieval period. A single sherd was recovered from close to the base of 0024 and again indicates a medieval date for this feature. If this feature is indeed a posthole it would suggest the site of a medieval structure lies within the footprint of the reservoir.

Ditch 0022 in Trench 3 is probably post medieval in date. The fill was notably darker and its location is coincidental with a field boundary marked on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Edition Ordnance Survey maps of the area. The quern fragment recovered from the fill is probably a residual find.

The remaining undated features in Trench 1 are possibly medieval although the two pits 0006 and 0013 were quite distinct suggesting they were relatively modern although this is not conclusive. The possible pit or ditch feature, 0020, is also possibly relatively recent as the cut for this feature could be traced through layer 0003, located immediately beneath the topsoil. The ditches 0009 and 0013 are likely to be related with each other with one being a recut. They are possibly related to Ditch 0016 in Trench 2.

8. Conclusions and recommendations for further work

The evaluation has found evidence for medieval activity within the footprint of the proposed reservoir with possible evidence for a structure and consequently it is highly likely further work will be recommended. The nature of any further work will be the decision of the Dr Jess Tipper of the County Conservation Team but at a minimum it is likely to involve archaeological monitoring of the topsoil strip followed by the excavation of any features that may be revealed.

9. Archive deposition

Paper archive: T:\ENV\ARC\MSWORKS3\PARISH\Theberton\2010-081 Theberton Hall Farm

Photo Archive: HAC 82 – HAC 97 in T:\ENV\ARC\MSWORKS3\Digital photos\HAC

Historic Environment Record reference under which archive is held: THB 021.

A summary has also been entered into OASIS, the online database, ref. suffolkc1-76556

10. List of contributors and acknowledgements

The evaluation was carried out by Mark Sommers and Anna West from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team. The machine and operator was provided by Holmes Plant and Construction Limited.

The project was directed by Mark Sommers, and managed by Rhodri Gardner, who also provided advice during the production of 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.

Plates (Scales = 1m or 2m lengths divided onto 0.5m sections or 30cm rule)



Plate I. Ditch 0004 (ref. HAC 82)



Plate II. Pit 0006 (ref. HAC 83)



Plate III. Ditches 0011 (left) and 0009 (right) (ref. HAC 84)



Plate IV. Pit 0013 (ref. HAC 85)



Plate V. Ditch 0016 (ref. HAC 86)



Plate VI. Ditch 0018 (ref. HAC 87)



Plate VII. Ditch/pit 0020 (ref. HAC 88)



Plate VIII. Ditch 0022 (ref. HAC 89)



Plate IX. Posthole 0024 (ref. HAC 90)



Plate X. Trench 4, general view (ref. HAC 97)

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Brief and Specification for Archaeological Evaluation

THEBERTON HALL FARM, THEBERTON HALL FARM LANE, THEBERTON, SUFFOLK (C/10/0665)

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

1. **The nature of the development and archaeological requirements**
 - 1.1 An application has been made to Suffolk Coastal District Council (C/10/0665) for the construction of an agricultural reservoir on land at Theberton Hall Farm, Theberton Hall Farm Lane, Theberton, Suffolk (TM 440 666). **Please contact the applicant for an accurate plan of the site.**
 - 1.2 The Planning Authority has been advised that the location of the proposed reservoir could affect important heritage assets with archaeological interest. The applicant should be required to undertake an archaeological field evaluation prior to consideration of the proposal, in accordance with PPS5 Planning for the Historic Environment (Policy HE6).
 - 1.3 The site is located on the south side of, and overlooking, the Minsmere River at c. 5 - 10.00m AOD. The soil is deep loam to clay of the Melford series derived from the underlying chalky till.
 - 1.4 The site of the proposed reservoir lies has good potential for the discovery of important hitherto unknown archaeological sites and features in view of its location overlooking the Minsmere River, which is topographically favourable for early occupation. There is high potential for archaeological deposits to be disturbed by this large development and, in particular, the reservoir will cause total destruction to a large area. However, the site has not been the subject of previous systematic investigation.
 - 1.5 In order to inform the proposal, the following archaeological evaluation 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 suitability of the site for the construction of the reservoir, should there be any archaeological finds of significance, will be based upon the results of the evaluation.**
 - 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 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 (9-10 The Churchyard, 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.

- 1.10 The WSI will provide the basis for measurable standards and will be used to satisfy the requirements of this specification. However, only the full implementation of the scheme, both completion of fieldwork and reporting based on the approved WSI, will enable SCCAS/CT to advise Suffolk Coastal District Council that the investigation has been adequately completed.
- 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 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover 5% by area (the overall size measures 83.00 x 48.00m), which is c. 200.00m². 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 (min.) unless special circumstances can be demonstrated; this will result in a minimum of 111.00m of trenching at 1.80m in width at 5% sample size.
- 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 Dr Helen Chappell, 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. 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 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner/developer to the deposition of the full site archive, and transfer of title, with the intended archive repository before the fieldwork commences. 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, scientific analysis) as appropriate.
- 5.12 The project manager should consult the intended archive repository before the archive is prepared regarding the specific requirements for the archive deposition and curation, and regarding any specific cost implications of deposition.
- 5.13 If the County Store is the intended location of the archive, the project manager should consult the SCCAS Archive Guidelines 2010 and also the County Historic Environment Record Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive. A clear statement of the form, intended content, and standards of the archive is to be submitted for approval as an essential requirement of the WSI.
- 5.14 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>).
- 5.15 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).

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Date: 13 April 2010

Reference: / ThebertonHallFarm-Theberton2010

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.

THB 021 - Context List

Context No.	Trench No.	Description
0001	n/a	Unstratified finds
0002	All	Topsoil layer
0003	All	Layer located between the topsoil and the underlying natural subsoil
0004	1	Ditch Cut. Narrow, shallow linear feature cut
0005	1	Fill of cut 0004 comprising pale to mid grey sand
0006	1	Pit Cut. Probably circular shaped feature located on the edge of trench.
0007	1	Fill of cut 0006 comprising pale grey brown and orange sand with charcoal flecks.
0008	1	Ditch segment
0009	1	Ditch Cut. Linear feature cut with sloping sides and a rounded base
0010	1	Fill of cut 0009 comprising mottled grey brown and orange sand
0011	1	Ditch Cut. Linear feature cut with sloping sides and a rounded base
0012	1	Fill of cut 0011 comprising mottled pale grey brown and orange sand
0013	1	Pit Cut. Circular feature with near sheer sides and rounded base
0014	1	Upper fill of cut 0013 comprising dark brown sand and charcoal
0015	1	Lower fill cut 0013 comprising mid brown sand with occasional stones
0016	2	Ditch Cut. Linear feature cut with sloping sides giving a V shaped profile
0017	2	Fill of cut 0016 comprising pale brown sand mottled with orange and brown sand (likely to be the result of animal and root disturbance)
0018	1	Ditch Cut. Linear feature cut, shallow with sloping sides and a rounded base
0019	1	Fill of cut 0018 comprising pale to mid grey sand
0020	1	Ditch or Pit Cut. Linear feature but with irregular sides and base
0021	1	Fill of cut 0020 comprising mottled mid brown sand
0022	3	Ditch Cut. Linear feature running length of trench. V shaped profile
0023	3	Fill of cut 0022 comprising mid to dark brown sand
0024	3	?Posthole. Possible posthole located on edge of trench funnel shaped profile with flat base
0025	3	Central fill of cut 0024, possible postpipe, comprises mid brown sand
0026	3	Layer of grey clay with chalk flecks around central fill of cut 0024