

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION REPORT

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## **The Old Maltings Site, Thingoe Hill, Bury St. Edmunds. BSE 246**

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS, 2005  
(Planning app. no. SE/03/2856/P)

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## Acknowledgements

This project was funded by Calmont (Weald) Ltd. and the archaeological work was specified and monitored by R. Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team).

The excavation was carried out by John Duffy and Jonathan Van Jennians from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

The project was managed by Andrew Tester, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

Finds processing was carried out by Richenda Goffin, Anna West and Gemma Adams, and the specialist finds and environmental assessment report by Richenda Goffin. Figure 4 was prepared by Gemma Adams.

## Summary

An excavation was conducted ahead of development on the site of the former maltings, Thingoe Hill, Bury St Edmunds. The site was heavily disturbed and terraced by the construction of the former maltings and the railway in the 19th century along with earlier post-medieval quarry pits. A small area of relatively undisturbed archaeology was excavated along the western edge of the site. Several pits and a probable ditch were identified and were post-medieval in date and therefore likely to be associated with the maltings. No medieval features were identified although residual medieval finds were recovered.

## SMR information

|                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Planning application no. | SE/03/2856/P          |
| Date of fieldwork        | 23rd to 27th May 2005 |
| Grid Reference:          | TL 8512 6527          |
| Funding body:            | Calmont (Weald) Ltd.  |
| Oasis reference          | suffolkc1-8262        |

## Introduction

An archaeological excavation was carried out ahead of development on the Old Maltings Site, Thingoe Hill, Bury St. Edmunds (Planning Application SE/03/2856/P). The excavation followed the archaeological brief and specification prepared by R. Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service, Conservation Team).

The development area was on the site of the former maltings located immediately to the north of Bury St Edmunds train station. The site was situated 400m beyond the extent of the walled medieval town but was located 150m west of one of the main roads into the town, Northgate Street.

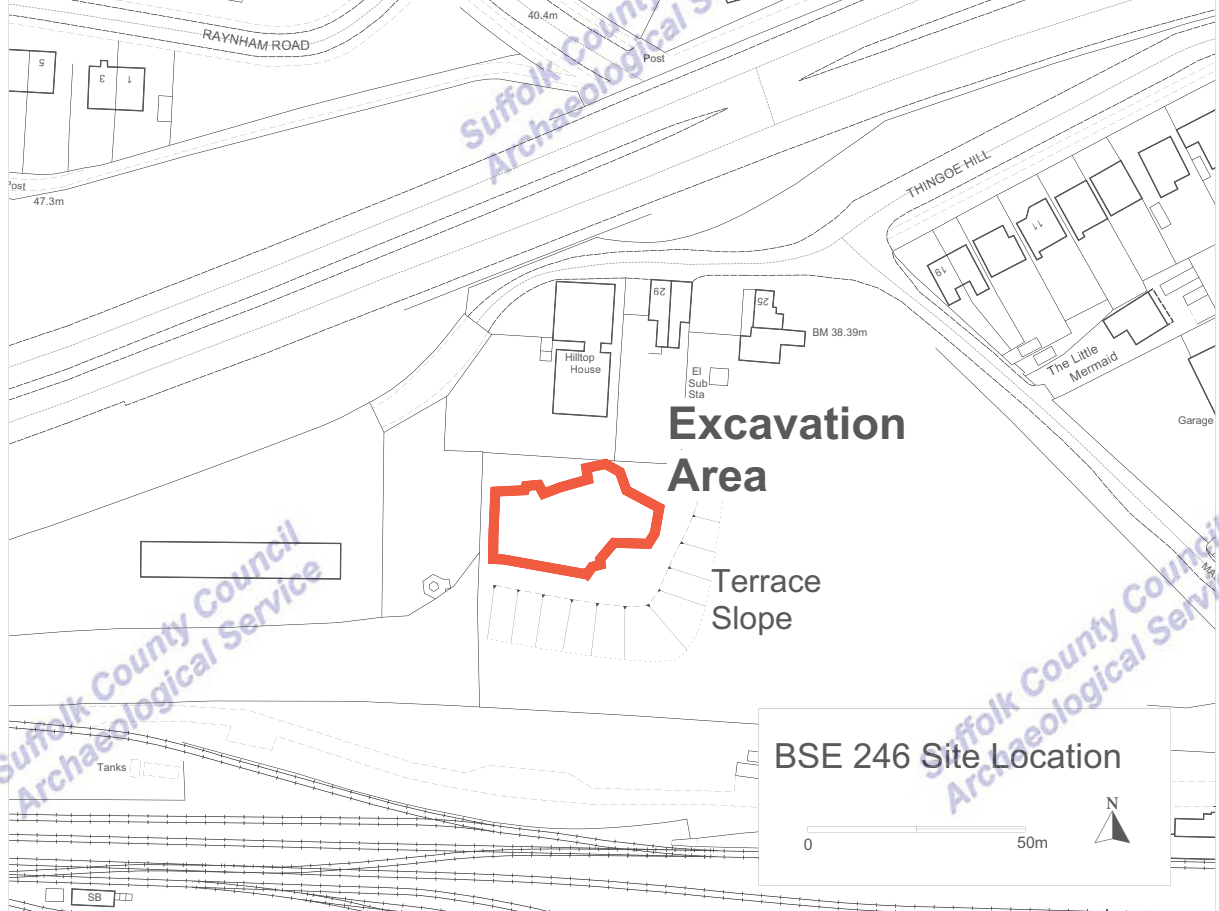
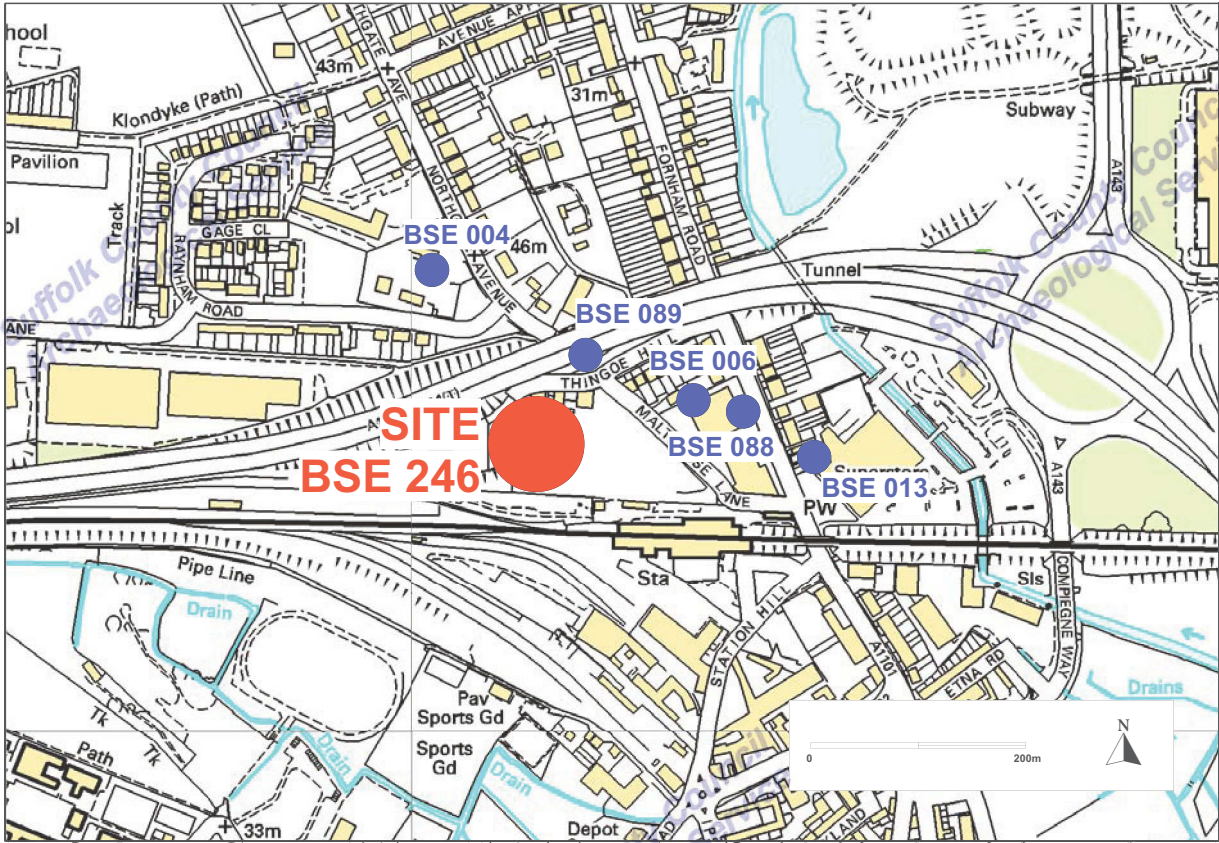
Limited evidence has been recovered for this area of Bury St Edmunds although the development site had been evaluated earlier, BSE 129 (Gill 1997). The name Thingoe Hill is derived from the Old Norse word *Thing* meaning meeting place hill or assembly mound and it has been suggested that this area was the original meeting place of the court of the Hundred of Thingoe. However, there has been limited evidence to support this with the exception of a single human burial (BSE 089) as isolated burials have been found in association with other *Thing* sites. The top of the hill actually lies to the north of the development and the 1st Edition OS map locates the Thing Houe tumulus there, BSE 004 (Figures 1 and 2). Located to the east of the site was St Thomas' Chapel (BSE 006) and associated burials (BSE 088) with St Saviour's Hospital (BSE 013) on the opposite side of the Northgate Street (Figure 1).

The excavation followed a much earlier evaluation (BSE 129 – Gill 1997) which, along with historic maps, showed the development site to be heavily disturbed. Quarry and extraction pits were identified from the 18th century onwards along the southern edge of the site along with the 19th century development of the railway tracks and buildings. The eastern half of the site was heavily terraced with the removal of the slope, running down from west to east, to allow for the construction of the maltings. This left only a small area of undisturbed ground along the western edge of the site (Figure 1). Evaluation Trench 2 ran across this area and identified several postholes of which one was dated to the medieval period (BSE 129 – 0008) (Figure 3). The northern limit of the quarrying was recorded to the south of Trench 2 (Gill 1997). The excavation covered the full extent of this raised area in an attempt to expose and record all the preserved archaeological remains (Figure 1).

## Methodology

A 360 degree machine, fitted with a 2m wide toothless bucket, was used to remove the overburden across the excavation area to expose the top of the preserved archaeological deposits. All exposed archaeological features were then sample excavated and fully recorded. Recording consisted of a full written record with each separate archaeological unit given a unique context number starting at 0001. Sections of all features were drawn at 1:20 and each feature was digitally photographed. A plan of all features was undertaken using a Total Station Theodolite (TST) and plotted on to the OS map. All finds recovered from features were retained and a specialist finds report was produced (included within this report).

The site archive is kept at the County Council Archaeological Store, Shire Hall, Bury St. Edmunds under the Site Code BSE 246.



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Figure 1. Site location

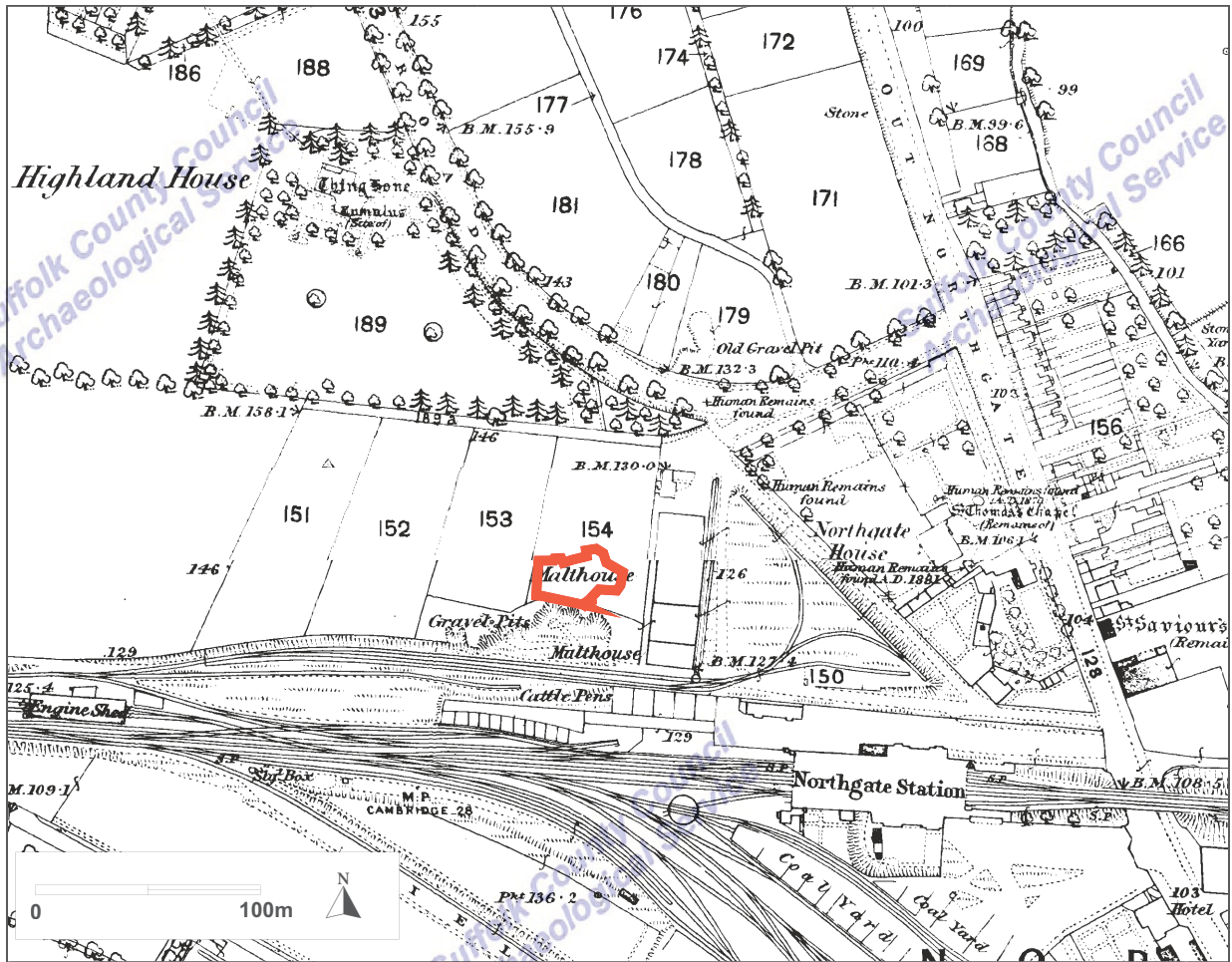


Figure 2. 1st Edition OS map (excavation area shown in red)

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## Results

The excavation site covered an area of approximately 650 square metres on the upper terraced level of the development site (Figure 1). The limits of the excavated area were as close to the fence line along the west and north of the site as possible but a number of trees in the north-west corner made it impossible to excavate in this area (Figure 1). To the east the excavation area extended to the edge of the terraced slope and to the south the area extended to the limits of the extensive post-medieval quarry pitting as defined in the evaluation. The excavation site was heavily truncated and disturbed by late features, including ditch 0009 and pit 0011, and terracing associated with the Maltings (Figures 1 and 3).

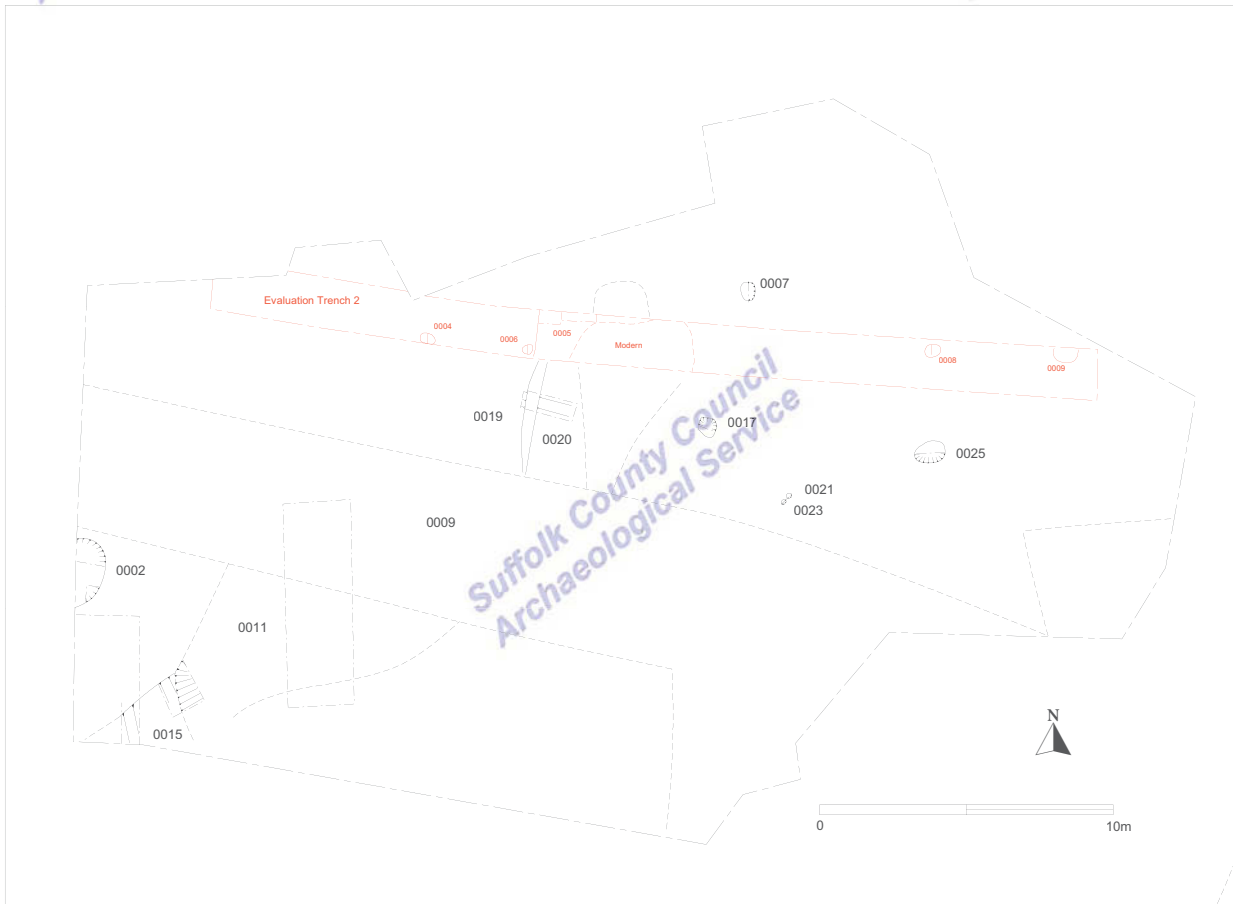


Figure 3. Site plan (evaluation features and context numbers in red)

The topsoil/overburden was a mixed dark brown silty sand containing fragments of brick, tile and glass. The surviving depth was less than 0.3m at the western end of the site becoming deeper (maximum 0.5m deep) towards the east following the natural slope downwards. This is further evidence for the terracing of the site indicating heavy truncation at the western limit of the site.

The natural subsoil varied across the site. Along the northern half of the excavation the subsoil was an orange sand with moderate small to medium flint inclusions becoming more frequent to the east. In the south-west corner of the site the subsoil was 50% orange sand and 50% small flint and gravel. Very little natural subsoil was visible elsewhere on the site due to the presence of late features.



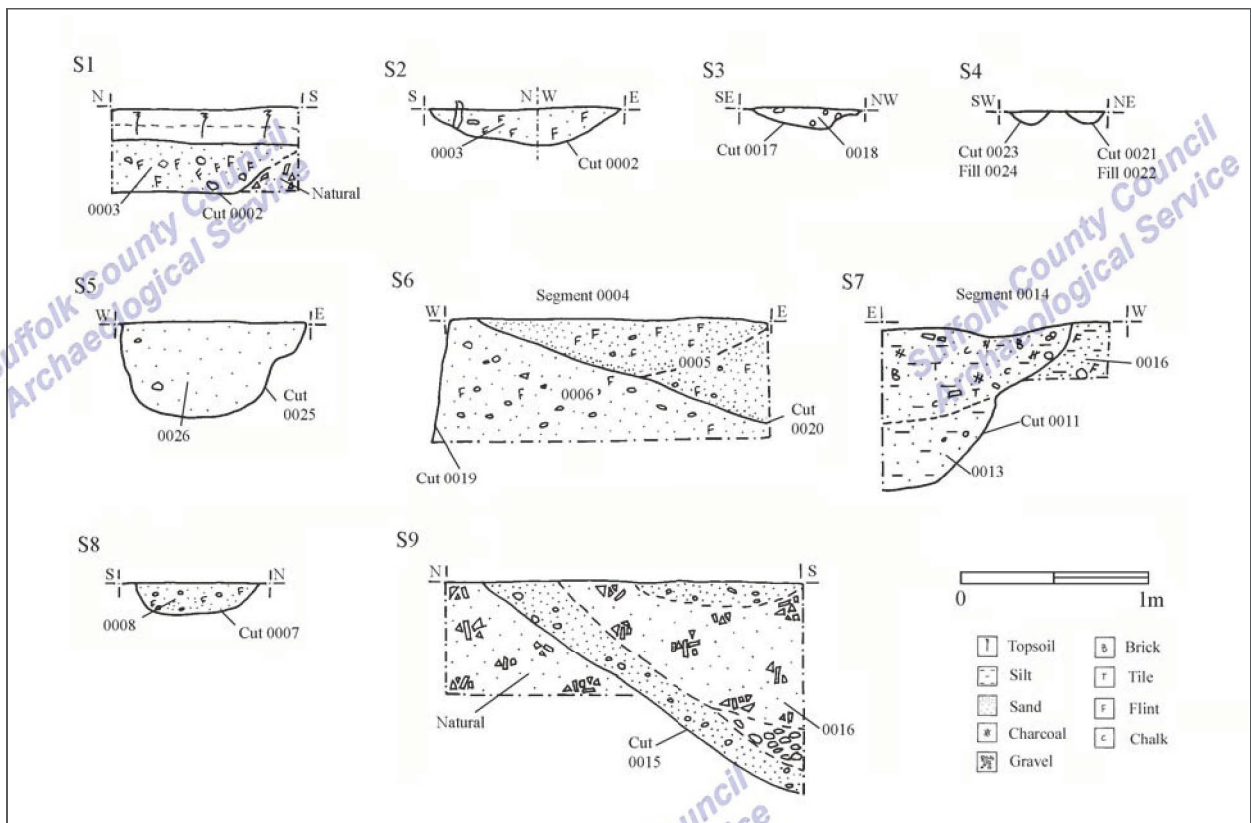


Figure 4. Sections

Only one of the previous evaluation trenches (Trench 2) was identified within the excavated site. Evaluation Trench 4 also ran within the excavated site but was not identified during the excavation. Trench 2 was only excavated to the level of the surrounding natural and where the trench extended below this the fill was left *in situ* rather than re-excavated. None of the features identified in the trench were re-exposed though Trench 2 features are shown on Figure 3.

Several late post-medieval/modern features ran across the site of which two (0009 and 0011) were looked at in more detail. Feature 0009 was a steep sided linear ditch that ran in a north-west to south-east direction across the entire site and cut feature 0011. A section of the ditch was excavated by machine but no section was recorded due to the unstable nature of the ditch fill. The ditch fill, 0010, was heavily mixed including a very dark brown sand, a mid orange sand and gravel, white chalk and a grey sand and ash layer. It is probable that this ditch formed the northern edge of what was interpreted as an extraction pit during the evaluation (Gill 1997).

Feature 0011 was irregular in plan and appears to butt end in the south-west corner of the site where it also cuts feature 0015. Feature 0011 was cut by ditch 0009 but does not appear to continue beyond the ditch to the north. The feature was excavated in two sections the first being a machine excavated slot where it was cut by ditch 0009. In this section the feature was filled by a mixed chalk and dark brown/grey sand with moderate flint (0012).

Feature 0011 was also excavated in segment 0014 where the edge of 0011 was seen cutting feature 0015. The excavation of the segment confirmed the relationship of the two features and showed feature 0011 to be fairly steep-sided though the base was not excavated. The fill of feature 0011 in segment 0014 was a mid brown silty sand, 0013, with numerous brick/tile fragments, chalk lumps and charcoal flecks, all decreasing in frequency towards the lowest excavated depth. Finds recovered included post-medieval pottery sherds and bottle glass along with a post-medieval button (SF1000) and one sherd of medieval pottery. Feature 0011 was

probably the north-western edge of a large extraction pit which was the same pit as identified in Trench 4 of the evaluation.

Within segment 0014 feature 0011 cut an earlier feature, 0015, visible on the southern edge of the excavation. Very little of the feature was visible in plan but it appeared to be the northern edge of a pit extending further to the south. The edges were fairly steep and the base was not identified although the excavated depth was approximately 1m. The feature was recorded in section, which was located west of segment 0014. The fill, 0016, was a dark brown with an orange gravel band with very frequent stones near the lowest excavated limits. Recovered from this fill was a single sherd of medieval pottery and a fragment of probable post-medieval roof tile.

Two features were identified and excavated in segment 0004. The upper feature, 0020, appeared to be a linear ditch running approximately north to south. The ditch had fairly gentle sloping sides, though only the western side was identified due to heavy modern disturbance to the east. The ditch was filled by a dark brown sand with moderate flint inclusions, 0005, becoming darker towards the bottom of the segment. It contained late post-medieval pottery sherds and fragments of clay pipe.

Pit 0019 was excavated immediately below ditch 0020 in segment 0004. Very little of the pit was visible in plan due to modern disturbance to the east and ditch 0009 to the south. The edge of the pit, where excavated in segment 0004, was undercut and the base was not reached. The pit was filled by a mixed brown sand and mid orangey brown sand with occasional flint, 0006, and contained post-medieval pottery sherds and clay pipe fragments.

Pit 0019 and ditch 0020 appear to be the same as evaluation features BSE 129 - 0007 and BSE 129 - 0005 from the evaluation, which were located in Trench 2, and contained sherds of medieval and early post-medieval pottery (Gill 1997).

Pit 0002 was located along the western edge of the excavation. The pit appeared oval but only about half of the feature was visible with the rest extending beyond the site edge to the west. In profile the pit was steep-sided with a flat base. The fill was a mid brown sand with moderate flints, 0003.

Pit 0007 was a small oval pit with steep sides and a flat base filled with a mid to dark brown sand with moderate flint inclusions, 0008. The fill contained the incomplete skeleton of a medium-sized dog, of which part of the lower spine, pelvis and hind legs were still articulated.

Pit 0017 was located just south of Trench 2 from the evaluation. The pit was oval in plan with shallow sloping sides becoming steeper near the base and on the west side. The pit was filled by a single dark brown sand with occasional flint, 0018. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit 0025 was also located to the south of Trench 2 from the evaluation and to the south-east of pit 0017. The pit was oval in plan with steep sides and a flatish base. The pit was filled by a dark grey sand, 0026. It contained three sherds of post-medieval pottery with one sherd of medieval ware and a medieval copper alloy buckle.

Postholes 0021 and 0023 were circular in plan with fairly steep sides and concave bases. The fill of 0021 was a dark greyish brown sand with occasional rounded flint, 0022. The fill of 0023 was also a dark greyish brown sand with very occasional rounded flint, 0024. No finds were recovered from these two features. These features may not be archaeological in nature but may be the result of other disturbance.

# Finds and environmental evidence

by Richenda Goffin

## Introduction

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

| OP    | Pottery |      | CBM |      | Clay pipe |      | Animal bone |      | Miscellaneous  | Spotdate     |
|-------|---------|------|-----|------|-----------|------|-------------|------|--|--------------|
|       | No.     | Wt/g | No. | Wt/g | No.       | Wt/g | No.         | Wt/g |  |              |
| 0001  | 3       | 27   |     |      |           |      |             |      | 3 frags glass @ 756g                                     | 19th-20th C  |
| 0003  |         |      |     |      |           |      |             |      | 1 iron @ 10g   | Undated      |
| 0005  | 4       | 51   | 18  | 201  | 3         | 11   |             |      | 3 glass @ 28g, 4 shell @ 5g, 1 iron @ 14g, 1 stone @ 43g | 19th-20th C  |
| 0006  | 3       | 9    | 8   | 212  | 2         | 7    |             |      | 1 shell @ 5g, 2 iron @ 52g                               | 19th-20th C  |
| 0008  |         |      |     |      |           |      | 136         | 298  |  | Undated      |
| 0013  | 4       | 65   | 11  | 1041 |           |      | 11          | 103  | 1 glass @ 14g, 1 shell @ 21g, 2 iron @ 58g               | 19th-20th C  |
| 0016  | 1       | 16   | 1   | 108  |           |      |             |      |  | ?16th-18th C |
| 0026  | 4       | 10   | 5   | 60   |           |      | 1           | 3    |  | 19th-20th C  |
| Total | 19      | 178  | 43  | 1622 | 5         | 18   | 148         | 404  |  |              |

Table 1. Bulk finds quantities

## Pottery

A total of 19 fragments of pottery was recovered from the excavation (0.178kg). Nearly all of the assemblage is post-medieval, but a very small quantity of medieval material was identified.

## Methodology

The ceramics were quantified using the recording methods recommended in the MPRG Occasional Paper No 2, Minimum standards for the processing, recording, analysis and publication of Post-Roman ceramics (Slowikowski et al 2001). The number of sherds present in each context by fabric, the estimated number of vessels represented and the weight of each fabric was noted. Other characteristics such as form, decoration and condition were recorded, and an overall date range for the pottery in each context was established. The pottery was catalogued on proforma sheets by context using letter codes based on fabric and form, and inputted into the site database (see Appendix 3).

The codes used are based mainly on broad fabric and form types identified in *Eighteen centuries of pottery from Norwich* (Jennings 1981), and additional fabric types established by the Suffolk Unit (S Anderson, unpublished fabric list).

## Pottery by period

### Medieval

A single abraded coarseware rim dating to the Late 12th-14th century was the only pottery recovered from the fill of 0016, a feature on the south-western edge of the excavation. An abraded rim of a Bury Coarse Sandy ware jar was present as a residual element in feature 0013. The sherd is made from a coarse sandy wheelthrown fabric containing sparse chalk inclusions, and has a grey core with pale brown/orange external margins. Such coarsewares are commonly found on excavations in Bury St Edmunds, spanning the period from the Late 12th-14th century. A small residual body sherd of medieval coarseware of a similar date was recovered from pitfill 0026.

## **Post-medieval**

The remainder of the pottery is post-medieval. The pottery from pitfill 0026 for example, has a wide date range, and includes two small sherds dating to the 16th-18th century but also the rim of a Refined white earthenware dish with a transfer printed stipple and line decoration of early 19th century date or later. Two fragments of 18th century pottery were recovered from pitfill 0006, (including a sherd of decorated Chinese porcelain), but a fragment of Refined white earthenware of 19th century or later was also found in this context.

Fragments of Late Post-medieval Earthenware plant pots were present as unstratified finds (0001) and also in ditchfill 0005, together with sherds of decorated Ironstone china of 19th century date.

## **Ceramic building material**

Forty-three fragments of ceramic building material were recovered weighing 1.622kg. The assemblage consists for the most part of post-medieval rooftiles, with a few small pieces of brick. A fragment of residual medieval rooftile was identified in pitfill 0006. A large fragment of rooftile made in a red-firing clay with ferrous inclusions from feature 0016 is likely to be post-medieval rather than earlier, but was found with a sherd of medieval pottery. Two fragments made from white firing clays of 18th-19th century date including a late brick were found in the feature fill 0013, together with a large cylindrical ceramic fragment made in a white-firing clay with a flanged rim which is likely to be part of a drainpipe.

## **Clay tobacco pipe**

Five fragments of clay pipe stem were recovered from features 0019 and 0020, both of which contained pottery of nineteenth century date or later.

## **Post-medieval glass**

Seven fragments of post-medieval glass were recovered from three different contexts. A complete Greene King & Sons Codd mineral bottle with glass stopper, a small shouldered glass bottle and a 2oz jar of bovril were collected as unstratified finds. Two other bottle glass fragments were found in ditchfill 0005, together with a very late piece of window glass. A fragment of a dark olive-green winebottle was found in feature fill 0013.

## **Stone**

A single fragment of slate recovered from ditchfill 0005 has at least one properly finished edge and may be the remains of a roofing slate.

## **Metalwork and small finds**

Iron nails were identified in four contexts, but were not allocated small find numbers.

Two copper alloy small finds were recovered, both of which were stratified (X-ray plate No SX:1111). A decorated kidney-shaped buckle (SF 1001), complete with pin and large rectangular shaped buckleplate was found in pitfill 0026. The wide buckle has an incised decoration of a central stem-like motif, possibly with foliate designs on either side. The buckle plate is also decorated, and the remains of two iron rivets still survive. Evidence of a thin band of ?leather still remains between the edges of the buckleplate. This type of buckle is 15th-16th century in date (Margeson, 1993, fig 14, No 147, 25-26). A complete undecorated circular button (SF1002) with a raised boss on the reverse and copper alloy 'eye' probably dates to the 19th century (Noel Hume, 91).

## **Animal bone**

A total of 148 fragments of animal bone was collected from the excavation (0.404kg). The majority of the bone was found in pitfill 0008, which contained the pelvis, back legs, vertebrae and some of the front legs and the scapula of a medium-sized dog, together with a few extraneous splinters of other animal bone. The fragmentary remains of a sheep humerus and radius were identified from feature fill 0013, and an unidentifiable bone splinter was present in pitfill 0026.

## **Shell**

Very small quantities of oyster shell were collected from three contexts. The ditchfill 0005 also contained the remains of a land snail.

## **Discussion**

In spite of the possibility of finding earlier material, the majority of finds recovered from the excavation are of a late date. The lack of features pre-dating the post-medieval period is probably due to the heavy truncation of the site for the construction of the Malthouse and any associated works. There is a small quantity of medieval sherds, but these are almost certainly residual. Other finds including small quantities of pottery and a finely decorated early post-medieval buckle (SF 1001) which span the 15th-18th centuries are also residual.

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## Conclusions

The excavation and earlier evaluation (BSE 129 – Gill 1997) identified a heavily disturbed site with very little of the archaeological deposits surviving. The terracing for the construction of the maltings removed archaeological deposits from across most of the site with the excavation conducted on the only surviving area of the slope. Within the excavation area heavy disturbance was also identified in the form of a large modern ditch, 0009, running across the middle of the site. Further disturbance was done by the large post-medieval quarry pits at the southern end of the excavation area, 0011 (Figure 3).

In areas of undisturbed archaeology several probably post-medieval features were identified including two small pits, 0017 and 0025, a medium sized pit, 0002, and two large pits, 0015 and 0019, the full extents of these were not identified. A single ditch 0020 cut across the top of pit 0019 but again due to disturbance its full extent was not identified. Two possible postholes, 0021 and 0023, were recorded in addition to the four identified in Evaluation Trench 2. Although medieval finds were recovered from the site all came from mixed contexts and are likely to be residual finds with no features dated to the medieval period. The one posthole from the evaluation, BSE 129 - 0008, that was dated to the medieval period contained only a single sherd of medieval pottery.

The features, even where disturbance is minimal, are fairly dispersed with no identifiable structures. Due to their post-medieval date most of the features are likely to be associated with the gravel quarry pits to the south or the later maltings to the east. None of the recovered evidence suggests any link to the early medieval meeting place or the site of the court of the Hundred of Thingoe. However, the excavation was mid slope with the site of the meeting place more likely at the top of the slope 180m to the north, BSE 004 (Figures 1 and 2).

## References

- Gill, D., 1997, *The Old Maltings, Thingoe Hill, Bury St Edmunds (BSE 129)*, S.C.C.A.S. Report No. 97/49.
- Jennings, S., 1981, Eighteen centuries of pottery from Norwich, *E. Anglian Archaeo* Report No 13
- Margeson, S., 1993, Norwich Households: the medieval and post-medieval finds from Norwich Survey Excavations 1971-1978, *E. Anglian Archaeo* Report No 58
- Noel Hume, I., 1980, *A guide to artifacts of colonial America*, Alfred A Knopf, New York
- Slowikowski, A., Nenck, B., and Pearce, J., 2001, *Minimum standards for the processing, recording, analysis and publication of post-Roman ceramics*, MPRG Occasional Paper No 2.

# Appendix 1 – Brief and Specification

## SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

### *Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Excavation*

#### MALTINGS SITE, THINGOE HILL, BURY ST EDMUNDS

*Although this document is fundamental to the work of the specialist archaeological contractor the developer should be aware that certain of its requirements are likely to impinge upon the working practices of a general building contractor and may have financial implications, for example see paragraphs 2.1 & 4.11. The commissioning body may also have Health & Safety and other responsibilities, see paragraphs 1.7 & 1.8*

### 1. Background

- 1.1 Consent has been granted for development (SE/03/2856/P). The planning authority have applied a PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition to the consent.
- 1.2 The development area has been evaluated (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Report No 97/49), the report adequately describes the archaeology of the site. The development proposal site plan (Drawing 6347/01) indicates that over 1m of soil will be removed in the area of known archaeology and will remove all archaeology.
- 1.3 In order to comply with the planning condition the prospective developer has requested a brief and specification for the archaeological recording of archaeological deposits which will be affected by development.
- 1.4 There is a presumption that all archaeological work specified for the whole area will be undertaken by the same body, whether the fieldwork takes place in phases or not. There is similarly a presumption that further analysis and post-excavation work to final report stage will be carried through by the excavating body. Any variation from this principle would require a justification which would show benefit to the archaeological process.
- 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” Occasional Papers 14, East Anglian Archaeology, 2003.
- 1.6 All arrangements for field excavation of the site, the timing of the work, and access to the site, are to be negotiated with the commissioning body.
- 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 Archaeological Project**

- 2.1 In the areas defined on Figure 1, archaeological excavation, as specified in Section 3, is to be carried out prior to development. The precise location of the area is relative to the recorded positions of the evaluation trenches. Figure 1 is purely indicative.

- 2.2 The excavation objective will be to provide a record of all archaeological deposits which would otherwise be damaged or removed by development, including services and landscaping permitted by any future detailed consent.

- 2.3 The academic objective will centre upon the high potential for this site to produce evidence for medieval and early post-medieval occupation.

- 2.4 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2). Excavation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential for analysis. Analysis and final report preparation will follow assessment and will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design.

- 2.5 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. An important aspect of the PD/WSI will be an assessment of the project in relation to the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 3*, 1997, 'Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 1. resource assessment'. Occasional Pap. 8, 2000, 'Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. research agenda and strategy').

- 2.6 The developer or his archaeologist will give the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS) 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. The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based.



### 3. Specification for the Archaeological Excavation

The excavation methodology will form part of the Project Design and is to be agreed in detail before the project commences; defined minimum criteria in this outline are to be met or exceeded:

- 3.1 The precise area of ground disturbance, location of trees which may be retained and the area to be archaeologically excavated is to be discussed with the developer and agreed with this office. For the purposes of an initial estimate the entire marked area should be costed for.
- 3.2 Plough soil and hillwash deposits can be removed by machine with a toothless bucket to the top of the first archaeological level.
- 3.3 Fully excavate all features that are, or could be interpreted as, structural. Post-holes, and pits that may be interpreted as post-holes, must be examined in section and then fully excavated. Fabricated surfaces within the excavation area (e.g. paths, yards, hearths & floors) must be fully exposed and cleaned. Any variation from this process can only be made by agreement with a member of the Conservation Team of SCCAS, and must be confirmed in writing.
- 3.4 All other features must be sufficiently examined to establish, where possible, their date and function. For guidance:
  - a) A minimum of 50% of the fills of the general features is to be excavated. Note that it is likely that prehistoric features e.g. especially pits, are likely to require full excavation.
  - b) Between 10% and 20% of the fills of substantial linear features (ditches etc) are to be excavated, the samples must be representative of the available length of the feature and must take into account any variations in the shape or fill of the feature and any concentrations of artefacts. Any variations from this practice are to be agreed [ if necessary on site ] with the Conservation Team.

Any variation from this process can only be made by agreement with a member of the Conservation Team of SCCAS, and must be confirmed in writing.

- 3.5 Collect and prepare environmental samples (by sieving or flotation as appropriate). The Project Design 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 P Murphy, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy and Wiltshire 1994) is available from the Conservation Team of SCCAS.
- 3.6 A finds recovery policy is to be agreed before the project commences. It should be addressed by the Project Design. Use of a metal detector will form an essential part of finds recovery. Sieving of occupation levels and building fills will be expected.

- 3.7 All finds will be collected and processed. No discard policy will be considered until the whole body of finds has been evaluated.
- 3.8 All ceramic, bone and stone artefacts to be cleaned and processed concurrently with the excavation to allow immediate evaluation and input into decision making.
- 3.9 Metal artefacts must be stored and managed on site in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines* and evaluated for significant dating and cultural implications before despatch to a conservation laboratory within 4 weeks of excavation.
- 3.10 Human remains are to be treated at all stages with care and respect, and are to be dealt with in accordance with the law. They must be recorded *in situ* and subsequently lifted, packed and marked to standards compatible with those described in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Technical Paper 13: Excavation and post-excavation treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains*, by McKinley & Roberts. Proposals for the final disposition of remains following study and analysis will be required in the Project Design.
- 3.11 Plans of the archaeological features on the site should normally 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.
- 3.13 Excavation record keeping is to be consistent with the requirements Suffolk County Council's Sites and Monuments Record and compatible with its archive. Methods must be agreed with the Conservation Team of SCCAS.

#### 4. **General Management**

- 4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences.
- 4.2 Monitoring of the archaeological work will be undertaken by the Conservation Team of SCCAS. Where projects require more than a total of two man-days on site monitoring and two man-days post-excavation monitoring, an 'at-cost' charge will be made for monitoring (currently at a daily rate of £150, but to be fixed at the time that the project takes place), provision should be made for this in all costings. [A decision on the monitoring required will be made by the Conservation Team on submission of the accepted Project Design.]
- 4.3 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors). For the site director and other staff likely to have a major responsibility for the post-excavation processing of this site there must be a statement of their responsibilities for post-excavation work on other archaeological sites.
- 4.4 A general Health and Safety Policy must be provided, with detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this particular site.

- 4.5 The Project Design must include proposed security measures to protect the site and both excavated and unexcavated finds from vandalism and theft.
- 4.6 Provision for the reinstatement of the ground and filling of dangerous holes must be detailed in the Project Design.
- 4.7 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. Archive Requirements

- 5.1 Within four weeks of the end of field-work a timetable for post-excavation work must be produced. Following this a written statement of progress on post -excavation work whether archive, assessment, analysis or final report writing will be required at three monthly intervals.
- 5.2 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principle of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (*MAP2*), particularly Appendix 3. However, the detail of the archive is to be fuller than that implied in *MAP2* Appendix 3.2.1. The archive is to be sufficiently detailed to allow comprehension and further interpretation of the site should the project not proceed to detailed analysis and final report preparation. It must be adequate to perform the function of a final archive for lodgement in the County SMR or museum.
- 5.3 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 Project Design (see 2.4).
- 5.4 The site archive quoted at *MAP2* Appendix 3, must satisfy the standard set by the "Guideline for the preparation of site archives and assessments of all finds other than fired clay vessels" of the Roman Finds Group and the Finds Research Group AD700-1700 (1993).
- 5.5 Pottery should be recorded and archived to a standard comparable with 5.3 above, i.e. *The Study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for Analysis and Publication*, Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group Occasional Paper 1 (1991, rev 1997), the *Guidelines for the archiving of Roman Pottery*, Study Group for Roman Pottery (ed. M G Darling 1994) and the *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2 (2001).
- 5.6 All coins must be identified and listed as a minimum archive requirement.
- 5.7 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monuments Record. All record drawings of excavated evidence are to be presented in drawn up form, with overall site plans. All records must be on an archivally stable and suitable base.

- 5.8 A complete copy of the site record archive must be deposited with the County Sites and Monuments Record within 12 months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 5.9 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with UK Institute Conservators Guidelines.
- 5.10 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner/developer to the deposition of the finds with the County SMR 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 SMR 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.
- 5.11 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project, 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 journal, must be prepared and 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.

## 6. Report Requirements

- 6.1 A report on the fieldwork and archive must be provided consistent with the principle of MAP2, particularly Appendix 4. The report must be integrated with the archive.
- 6.2 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 6.3 An important element of the report will be a description of the methodology.
- 6.4 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.
- 6.5 The report will give an opinion as to the potential and necessity for further analysis of the excavation data beyond the archive stage, and the suggested requirement for publication; it will refer to the Regional Research Framework (see above, 2.4). Further analysis will not be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established. Analysis and publication can be neither developed in detail or costed in detail until this brief and specification is satisfied.
- 6.6 The assessment report must be presented within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and the Conservation Team of SCCAS

- 6.7 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.
- 7.8 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the SMR. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

Specification by: Robert Carr

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Tel: 01284 352441

Date: 17 March 2005

Reference: /BSE-ThingoeHill03

**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.**

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## Appendix 2 Context list

| Context | Feature | Segment | Identifier   | Description   | Interpretation               |
|---------|---------|---------|--------------|---|------------------------------|
| 0001    |         |         | Finds        | Unstratified finds.   |                              |
| 0002    | 0002    |         | Pit Cut      | Cut of pit visible near north-west corner of site. Only half visible as western side goes under site edge. Steep sided with a flat base.  |                              |
| 0003    | 0002    |         | Pit Fill     | Fill of pit [0002]. Mid brown sand with moderate flints.  |                              |
| 0004    |         | 0004    | Segment      | Segment excavated through fills (0005) and (0006). Approximately east west aligned. West end follows possible feature [0019] edge. East end arbitrary. South facing section drawn.  |                              |
| 0005    | 0020    | 0004    | Ditch ? Fill | Upper fill within segment 0004. Dark brown sand with moderate flint inclusions becoming darker towards bottom of segment 0004. Finds are mixed with some from fill (0006) below. Possible fill of feature [0020] (a possible ditch). Extent not visible due to modern disturbance. Unclear if full depth excavated. |                              |
| 0006    | 0019    | 0004    | Pit ? Fill   | Lower fill within segment 0004. Mixed mid brown sand and mid orangey brown sand with occasional flint. Fill of feature [0019] (a possible pit).   |                              |
| 0007    | 0007    |         | Pit Cut      | Cut of small oval pit to the north of Evaluation Trench 2. Steep sided with flat base. Cut into mid orange sand and moderate flint natural.   | Late pit for cat burial?     |
| 0008    | 0007    |         | Pit Fill     | Mid to dark brown sand with moderate flint inclusions. Fill of pit [0007]. Contained animal bone - almost all from one animal (cat?). Rear end of animal articulated - no skull survives. Heavy root disturbance.   | Cat? Burial - fairly modern. |
| 0009    | 0009    |         | Ditch Cut    | Cut of linear ditch running approximately NW-SE across whole site. Steep sided. Base not found. Appears very modern.  | Modern                       |
| 0010    | 0009    |         | Ditch Fill   | Very mixed fill of ditch [0009]. Includes very dark brown sand; mid orange sand and gravel; white chalk; grey sand/ash. Evidence of burning and later disturbance at western end. Sample of finds recovered - very modern.  | Modern                       |
| 0011    | 0011    |         | Feature Cut  | Irregular shaped feature in SW corner of site. Cut by ditch [0009]. Butt ends in segment 0014 in SW corner of site. Fairly steep sided. Base not visible.   | Modern                       |
| 0012    | 0011    |         | Feature Fill | Mixed chalk and dark brown/grey sand with moderate flint. Sample of finds collected. Appears modern.  | Modern                       |

| Context | Feature | Segment | Identifier    | Description  | Interpretation                                  |
|---------|---------|---------|---------------|--|---|
| 0013    | 0011    | 0014    | Feature Fill  | Fill of feature [0011] within segment 0014. Mid brown silty sand with numerous small (modern) inclusions: brick/tile fragments, chalk lumps and charcoal flecks. Less inclusions towards base. |   |
| 0014    |         | 0014    | Segment       | Segment through [0011] and [0015] near SW corner of site. Only NW facing section drawn.  |   |
| 0015    | 0015    | 0014    | Feature Cut   | Cut of ditch/pit located near SW corner of site. Full width and length not visible but fairly steep sided on north side. Cut by [0011].  |   |
| 0016    | 0015    | 0014    | Feature Fill  | Fill of [0015]. Dark brown sand fill with orange gravel band and very stoney at base.  |   |
| 0017    | 0017    |         | Pit Cut       | Cut of small oval pit located to the south of Evaluation Trench 2. Shallow sloping sides becoming steeper near base and on west side. Cuts into natural dark orange sand and frequent flint.   |   |
| 0018    | 0017    |         | Pit Fill      | Fill of pit [0017]. Dark brown sand and occasional flint. No finds.  | Possible pit or root hole.                      |
| 0019    | 0019    | 0004    | Pit ? Cut     | Cut of possible large pit excavated in segment 0004. Edge is undercut (sloping outwards not inwards). Extent unknown as heavily disturbed by modern features. Base not excavated.              | Possibly same as 0007 from Evaluation Trench 2. |
| 0020    | 0020    | 0004    | Ditch Cut     | Cut of possible ditch excavated in segment 0004. Shallow sloping sides. Base not excavated. Unclear in plan as heavily disturbed by modern. Possibly just later fill line within [0019].       | Possibly same as 0005 from Evaluation Trench 2. |
| 0021    | 0021    |         | Posthole Cut  | Cut of possible posthole. Circular in plan. Fairly steep sided with concave base. Cuts into natural orange sand with moderate flint.   | Possible root disturbance or posthole.          |
| 0022    | 0021    |         | Posthole Fill | Fill of possible posthole [0021]. Dark greyish brown sand with occasional rounded flint. No finds.   |   |
| 0023    | 0023    |         | Posthole Cut  | Cut of possible posthole. Located south of [0021]. Circular in plan. Fairly steep sided with concave base. Cuts into natural orange sand with moderate flint.                                  | Possible root disturbance or posthole.          |
| 0024    | 0023    |         | Posthole Fill | Fill of possible posthole [0021]. Dark greyish brown sand with very occasional rounded flint. No finds.  |   |
| 0025    | 0025    |         | Pit Cut       | Cut of oval pit south of Evaluation Trench 2. Steep sided. Flatish base.   |   |
| 0026    | 0025    |         | Pit Fill      | Fill of pit [0025]. Dark grey sand.  |   |



## Appendix 3 Pottery list

| Context | Ceramic perio | Fabric | Form   | No of sherds | Weight | Abrasion | Comments   | Overall spotdate |
|---------|---------------|--------|--------|--------------|--------|----------|--|------------------|
| 1       | PM            | LPME   | FLOP   | 1            | 48     |          | Complete small flowerpot                           |                  |
| 1       | PM            | ENGS   | BOTT   | 1            | 189    |          | Complete bottle, pearlware glaze over stoneware?   |                  |
| 1       | PM            | LPME   | FLOP   | 1            | 28     |          |  | 19th-20th C      |
| 5       | PM            | LPME   | FLOP   | 1            | 25     |          | Base of flowerpot or similar                       |                  |
| 5       | PM            | GRE    | BODY   | 1            | 14     | A        |  |                  |
| 5       | PM            | IRON   | BODY   | 2            | 11     |          | Willow pattery type of transfer printed ware       | 19th-20th C      |
| 6       | PM            | SWSG   | BODY   | 1            | 3      |          |  |                  |
| 6       | PM            | CHPO   | DISH   | 1            | 3      |          | Rim sherd of dec dish or plate, poss orig scallope |                  |
| 6       | PM            | REFW   | BODY   | 1            | 2      | A        |  | 19th-20th C      |
| 13      | PM            | REFW   | JAR    | 1            | 11     |          | Greyhound stamp on the reverse and 'E M & Co'      |                  |
| 13      | PM            | REFW   | BASE   | 1            | 4      |          |  |                  |
| 13      | PM            | GRE    | BODY   | 1            | 22     |          |  |                  |
| 13      | M             | BCSW   | CP/JAR | 1            | 24     | A        | Coarse chalky and sandy fabric, wheelthrown        | 19th-20th C      |
| 13      | PM            | DRAIN? | DPIPE? | 0            | 0      |          |  |                  |
| 16      | M             | MCW    | JAR?   | 1            | 16     | A        | Abraded sherd, poss Colchester type 13th-14th C    | L12th-14th C     |
| 26      | PM            | GRE    | BODY   | 1            | 4      |          |  |                  |
| 26      | PM            | IGBW   | BODY   | 1            | 1      |          |  |                  |
| 26      | PM            | REFW   | SAUC   | 1            | 1      |          | TPW - Purple & black stipple and line              |                  |

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| Context | Ceramic period | Fabric | Form | No of sherds | Weight | Abrasion | Comments | Overall spotdate |
|---------|----------------|--------|------|--------------|--------|----------|----------|------------------|
|---------|----------------|--------|------|--------------|--------|----------|----------|------------------|

|    |   |     |      |   |   |  |                 |          |
|----|---|-----|------|---|---|--|-----------------|----------|
| 26 | M | MCW | BODY | 1 | 2 |  | Hollesley-type? | 19th C + |
|----|---|-----|------|---|---|--|-----------------|----------|

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