Suffolk County Council

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2010/221

Land east of 13 East Lane, Bawdsey, Suffolk

BAW 163

Kieron Heard

www.suffolk.gov.uk/environment/archaeology

Lucy Robinson, **County Director of Economy, Skills and Environment**
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HER Information

Planning Application No:	**C/07/0368/OUT**
Dates of Fieldwork:	**13–29 April 2010**
Grid Reference:	**TM 34885 40063**
Funding Body:	**Mullins Dowse and Partners**
Curatorial Officer:	**Jess Tipper**
Project Officer:	**Kieron Heard**
Oasis Reference:	**suffolkc1–88735**
	Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service: http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit

Summary

BAW 163, Land east of 13 East Lane, Bawdsey: An archaeological monitoring was carried out during the excavation of foundation trenches for a housing development. This was the second phase of archaeological fieldwork to take place on this site.

In the north-eastern part of the site natural crag deposits were truncated (presumably by marine erosion) and overlaid by extensive sequences of dumped and water-laid deposits that are assumed (based on previous fieldwork) to have been of early medieval date. These deposits were removed partially by two undated pits.

In the light of these limited results a recommendation is made that no further archaeological fieldwork is required in relation to the proposed development of the site.

1. Introduction

An archaeological monitoring was carried out on land to the east of 13 East Lane, Bawdsey in accordance with an archaeological condition relating to planning permission for a housing development (planning application number: C/07/0368/OUT). Mullins Dowse and Partners commissioned and funded the fieldwork. The Brief and Specification for the monitoring was written by Jess Tipper (SCCAS Conservation Team) and is appended to this report.

This was the second phase of archaeological fieldwork at this site. The first phase, a metal-detecting survey and trial-trench evaluation, is described in a previous report (Heard, 2010). The locations of the evaluation trenches are shown on Figure 2 and the results of the evaluation are summarised below:

The underlying geology of the site is crag, represented here by undulating deposits of coarse sand rich in fossil shell fragments. In the southern half of the site the crag deposits were overlaid by discontinuous layers of subsoil interpreted as the remains of a former ploughsoil. Extensive dumped deposits of medieval date, probably associated with large-scale land reclamation or the backfilling of a former watercourse, extended across most of the northern half of the site (in Trenches 1–6). Three cut features in the southern half of the site – a small pit (in Trench 6) and an unspecified feature (in Trench 7) of medieval date, and a large, undated pit (in Trench 9) – might have been associated with occupation along the East Lane frontage.

In the light of these results the evaluation report contained a recommendation that an archaeological monitoring of ground work associated with the proposed residential development should be carried out. The proposed main objectives of the monitoring were to locate and record further evidence for medieval activity along the East Lane frontage and to try to delineate and characterise the dumped deposits in the northern half of the site.

A Brief and Specification for monitoring of the groundwork was prepared in January 2010 (Tipper, 2010) and the fieldwork was carried out on five occasions between 13 April and 29 April 2010.

2. Methodology

The proposed development includes ten houses (some with detached garages), associated access roads and car parking areas, and the installation of main services. The house plots are shown on Figure 2. The monitoring was carried out during the excavation of the foundation trenches for Plots 1–6, on the East Lane frontage, and Plots 11 and 12, in the north-eastern corner of the site. Plots 7–10 are not scheduled to be built until those in the first phase of construction have been sold (Martin Insley, *pers comm*). Although the access roads were stripped of topsoil it was not possible to monitor this work archaeologically.

Generally the foundation trenches, for houses and detached garages, were 0.80m wide x 0.80m deep. Where archaeological features or deposits were observed they were recorded in section at a scale of 1:20 on sheets of gridded drawing film; context descriptions were written on the same sheets. The drawn sections and context descriptions have been reproduced in full in this report. A photographic record was made, consisting of high-resolution digital images: this forms part of the SCCAS photographic archive, referenced as HAE 014–031. The site archive is located currently at the SCCAS office at St Edmund House, Rope Walk, Ipswich.

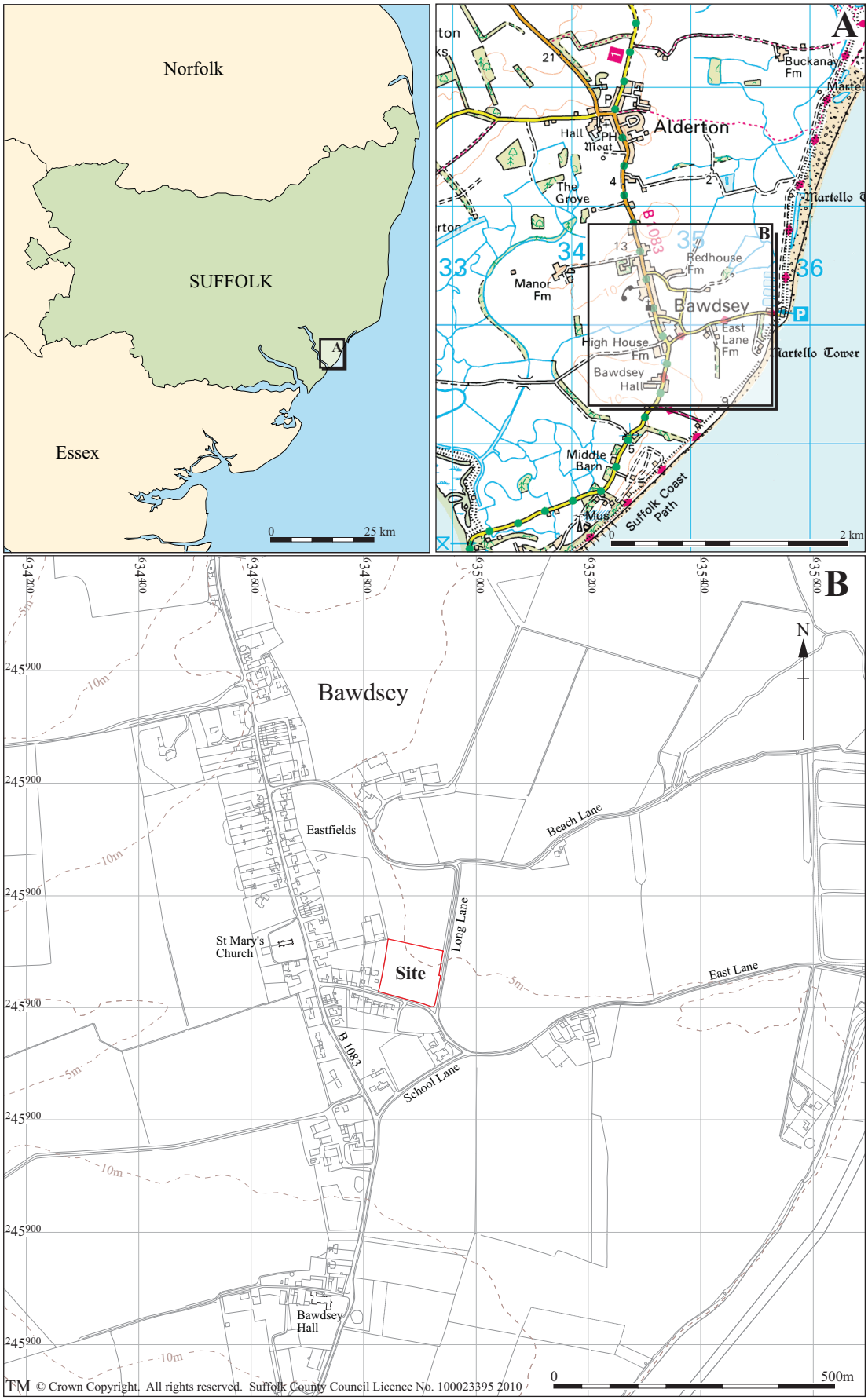

Figure 1. Site location

Figure 2. Monitored house plots (green), recorded sections S1–S3 (red) and original evaluation trenches (grey)

3. Results

No significant archaeological deposits or features were observed in the foundation trenches for Plots 1–6, on the East Lane frontage. In this part of the site the natural crag was sealed by discontinuous deposits of soft, mid reddish brown or greyish brown silty sand, 0.20–0.30m thick. These are interpreted as remnants of the subsoil layer that was recorded during the trial-trench evaluation of the site. Monitoring of the foundation trenches for Plot 12 (house) revealed crag deposits beneath a layer of recently disturbed topsoil/subsoil, but no archaeological deposits.

Archaeological deposits and features were observed in the foundation trenches for the detached garage of Plot 12 and in the trenches for Plot 11. These are described in the table below and illustrated in Figures 3 and 4.

Context	Type	Description	Section
0096	Fill of 0097	Soft (slightly fibrous), dark grey sandy silt containing moderate pebbles and occasional small fragments of charcoal. Some small pockets of orange sand.	S.2
0097	Cut	Pit measuring 0.95m wide x 0.70m deep, with steep sides and a concave base. Filled by 0096.	S.2
0098	Deposit	Soft, mid brownish grey sandy silt with frequent iron staining. Up to 0.50m thick.	S.1/S.2
0099	Deposit	Loose, light to mid grey silty sand with frequent crushed shell and occasional small fragments of animal bone (not kept).	S.1/S.2
0100	Deposit	Loose, light to mid grey silty sand with frequent crushed shell.	S.2
0101	Deposit	Loose, orange shelly sand (redeposited natural?).	S.2
0102	Deposit	Soft, mid grey sandy silt with frequent iron staining and fine lenses and patches of course orange sand.	S.2
0103	Deposit	Compact, dark grey sandy silt with occasional pebbles.	S.2
0104	Deposit	Loose, orange and yellowish shelly sand with some horizontal banding (Natural stratum).	S.1–S.3
0105	Deposit	Friable, light greyish brown silty sand with moderate pebbles and flecks to small fragments of shell.	S.1
0106	Fill of 0108	Compact, mid greyish brown silty sand with moderate pebbles and flecks of shell.	S.1
0107	Fill of 0108	Loose, mid orangey brown coarse shelly sand with occasional small pockets of mid grey sandy silt	S.1
0108	Cut	Unknown shape, 1.35m NS x >1.60m EW x >0.70m deep. Very steep, smooth sides.	S.1
0109	Deposit	Compact, dark grey sandy silt with occasional pebbles, small fragments of charcoal and shell.	S.1
0110	Deposit	Soft, light brownish grey silty sand with moderate flecks of shell and occasional pebbles.	S.1
0111	Deposit	Variously, light grey coarse shelly sand and black sandy silt, in patches and lenses.	S.1
0112	Deposit	Loose, mid greyish brown silty sand.	S.1
0113	Deposit	Compact, dark brownish grey sandy silt with occasional pebbles, flecks of fired clay, charcoal and shell.	S.1/S.3
0114	Deposit	Loose, mid to dark orangey brown coarse shelly sand with occasional small pockets of mid to dark grey silt.	S.1/S.3
0115	Deposit	Soft, dark grey sandy silt containing occasional pebbles and small fragments of animal bone, moderate flecks to small fragments of charcoal, some lenses/patches of light grey sand and frequent small patches/lenses of dark reddish brown fibrous silt.	S.1
0116	Deposit	Loose, mid orangey brown coarse shelly sand with occasional small pockets of mid to dark grey silt.	S.1
0117	Deposit	Soft, dark grey sandy silt containing occasional pebbles, moderate flecks to small fragments of charcoal, some lenses/patches of light grey sand and frequent small patches/lenses of dark reddish brown fibrous silt.	S.1
0118	Deposit	Loose, mid orangey brown coarse shelly sand with occasional small pockets of mid to dark grey silt.	S.1
0119	Deposit	Soft, dark grey sandy silt containing occasional pebbles, moderate flecks to small fragments of charcoal, some lenses/patches of light grey sand and frequent small patches/lenses of dark reddish brown fibrous silt.	S.1
0120	Deposit	Soft, dark grey sandy silt containing occasional pebbles, moderate flecks to small fragments of charcoal, some lenses/patches of light grey sand and frequent small patches/lenses of dark reddish brown fibrous silt.	S.3

Context descriptions

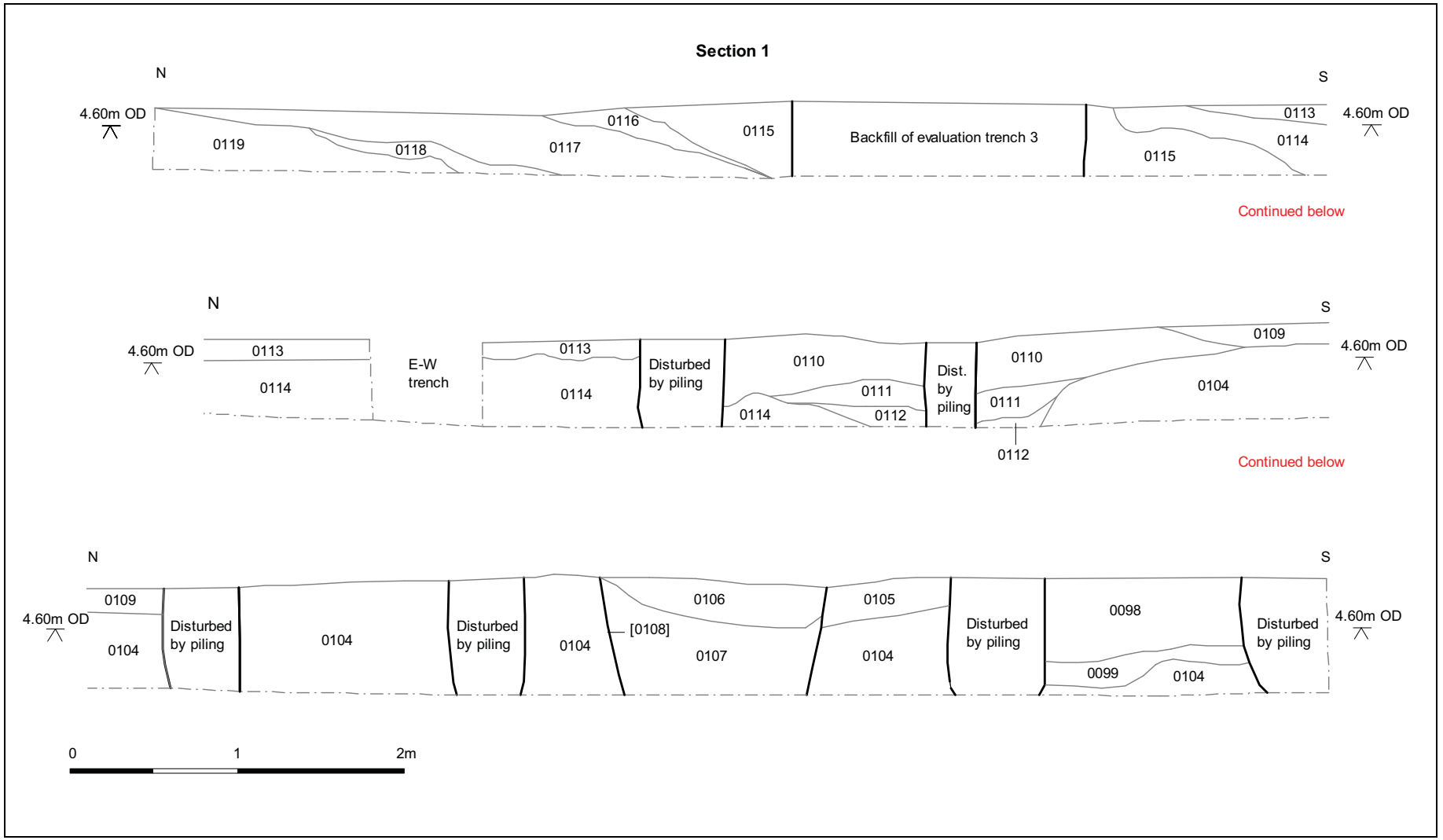

Figure 3. Section 1

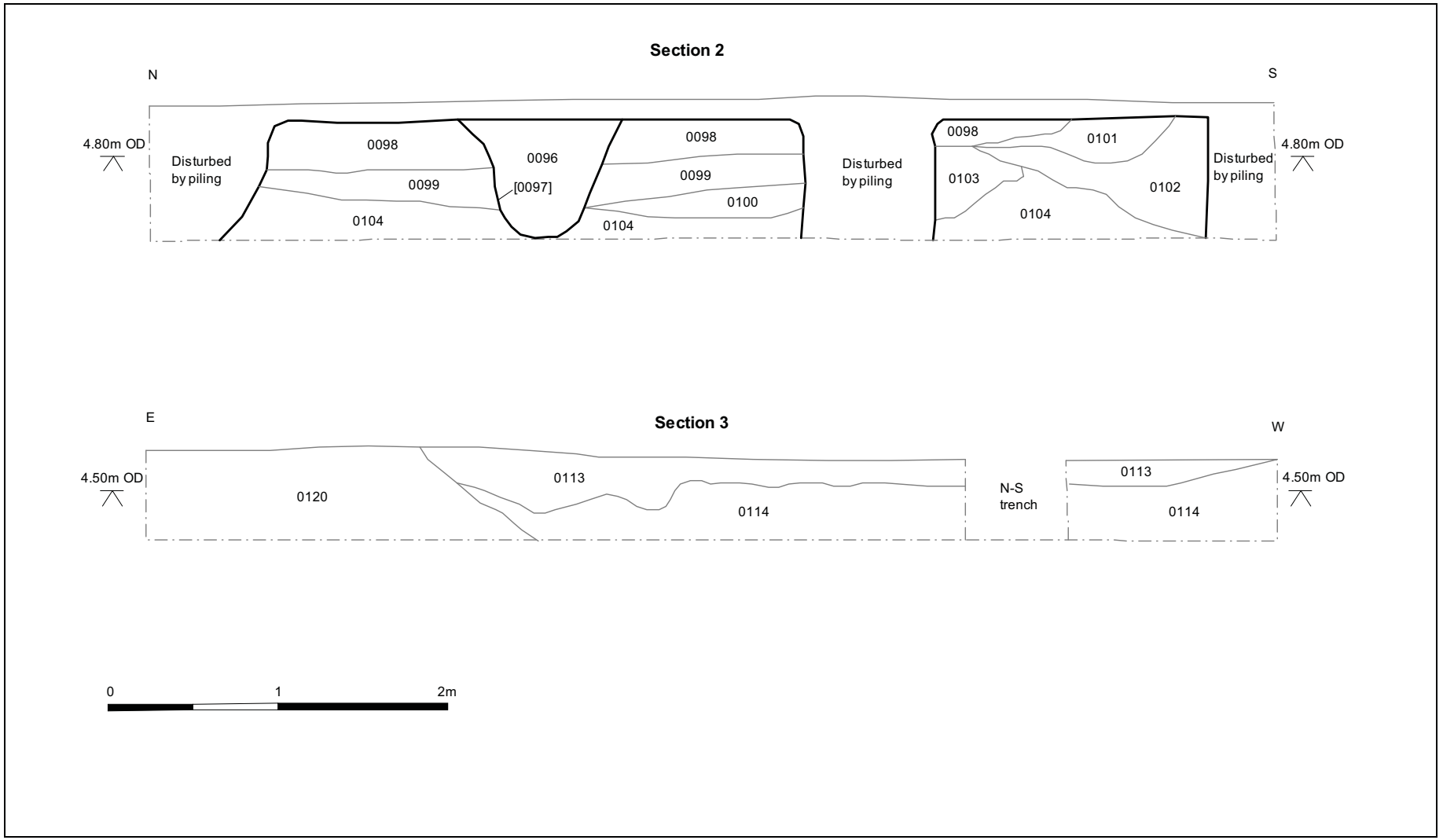

Figure 4. Sections 2 and 3

Plate 1. Natural crag deposits in Plot 2/3, looking northwest

Plate 2. North end of Section 2, showing part of pit 0097 (right) and dumped deposits 0098/0099 overlying natural crag 0104

Plate 3. Pit 0108 cutting natural crag 0104, in Section 1 (0.5m scale)

Plate 4. General view of deposits at the north end of Section 1, looking northeast

4. Discussion

The natural crag 0104 was observed and recorded at the south end of section S.1 and in section S.2. It varied in height from 4.90m OD to below 4.20m OD and had a very irregular surface, having been truncated by one or more extensive cut features. At the north end of section S.1 the crag was truncated to below the depth of the foundation trench.

The extent of the truncation could not be determined, since it continued beyond the limits of the monitored area in all directions.

Sequences of alternating dumped and water-laid deposits overlaid the truncated natural strata and extended beyond the limits of the monitored area. The dumped deposits, principally dark grey silts containing lenses of sand and peaty soil, were similar to those recorded in Evaluation Trenches 3 and 10 in the same area of the site (Heard, 2010). No additional dating evidence was recovered during the monitoring, but pottery from the evaluation phase indicates that the dumps were probably of early medieval date. The water-laid deposits consisted of shelly sands, obviously derived from the natural crag.

Two pits cut through the earlier deposits. 0097 measured 0.95m wide x 0.70m deep, with steep sides and a concave base (see section S.2 and Plate 2). Its fill 0096 contained charcoal fragments but no datable material. Pit 0108 (see section S.1 and Plate 3) measured 1.35m north–south x >1.60m east–west x >0.70m deep, with very steep, smooth sides. It extended below the base of the foundation trench. Its sandy fills did not appear to contain any cultural material.

5. Conclusions and recommendations for further work

The monitoring has added little to the understanding of the site, beyond that gained from the earlier fieldwork. The truncation of the natural crag and subsequent deposition in the north-eastern part of the site has been shown to be more extensive than was seen previously. This lends weigh to the suggestion (Heard 2010, 31) that it represents fluvial or marine erosion followed by alluvial deposition and deliberate land reclamation.

In the light of these results, and following discussions with the Curatorial Officer, it is recommended that no further archaeological fieldwork is required in relation to the proposed development of the site.

This monitoring report will be disseminated *via* the OASIS online archaeological database.

6. Bibliography

Heard, K., 2010, *Archaeological Evaluation Report: Land east of 13 East Lane, Bawdsey, Suffolk*, SCCAS (unpubl)

Tipper, J., 2010, *Brief and Specification for Continuous Archaeological Recording: Land east of 13 East Lane, Bawdsey, Suffolk (C/07/0368/OUT)*, SCCAS (unpubl)

Appendix 1. Brief and specification

Brief and Specification for Continuous Archaeological Recording

LAND EAST OF 13 EAST LANE, BAWDSEY, SUFFOLK (C/07/0368/OUT)

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

1. Background

1.1 Planning permission for the erection of 12 dwellings with new access and parking on Land East of 13 East Lane, Bawdsey, Suffolk (TM 3490 4004), has been granted by Suffolk Coastal District Council conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (application C/07/0368/OUT).

1.2 The proposed development area measures *c*. 0.97 ha, on the northern side of East Lane, and on the south-east side of Bawdsey village (see accompanying plan). It is situated on glaciofluvial drift over cretaceous sand or crag (deep sand) at *c*. 5.00m AOD.

1.3 This application lies in an area of high archaeological potential, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record, east of a medieval finds spot (HER no. BAW 036 and BAW 029) that is indicative of further archaeological deposits within this area. An archaeological evaluation, undertaken in December 2009 by SCCAS Contracting Team (HER no. BAW 163) defined medieval activity in the form of several pits containing medieval pottery. There is high potential for occupation deposits of this period to be disturbed by development.

1.4 Assessment of the available archaeological evidence indicates that the area affected by development can be adequately recorded by continuous archaeological recording during all groundworks (**Please contact the developer for an accurate plan of the development**).

1.5 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 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. The 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.

1.6 Following approval of the WSI, our office will advise the Local Planning Authority that an acceptable scheme of work is in place, and therefore we (will) have no objection to the work commencing. Neither this specification nor the WSI, however, is a sufficient basis for the discharge of the planning condition relating to archaeological investigation. Only the full implementation of the scheme, both completion of fieldwork and reporting based on the approved WSI, will enable SCCAS/CT to advise Suffolk Coastal District Council that the condition has been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged.

1.7 Before commencing work the project manager must carry out a risk assessment and liase with the site owner, client and the Conservation Team of SCCAS (SCCAS/CT) in ensuring that all potential risks are minimised.

1.8 All arrangements for the excavation 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 by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.

1.9 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.

1.10 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.

1.11 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

2. Brief for Archaeological Monitoring

2.1 To provide a record of archaeological deposits which are damaged or removed by any development [including services and landscaping] permitted by the current planning consent.

2.2 The significant archaeologically damaging activity in this proposal is the ground works associated with the residential development: topsoil stripping and landscaping for the new access road, car parking and turning areas, house plots and garages, and other external patio areas, and also the excavation of trenches for associated services. Any ground works, and also the upcast soil, are to be closely monitored during and after stripping by the building contractor. Adequate time is to be allowed for archaeological recording of archaeological deposits during excavation, and of soil sections following excavation.

3. Arrangements for Monitoring

3.1 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the archaeological contractor) who must be approved by SCCAS/CT.

3.2 The developer or his contracted archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT 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.

3.3 Allowance must be made to cover archaeological costs incurred in monitoring the development works by the contract archaeologist. The size of the contingency should be estimated by the approved archaeological contractor, based upon the outline works in this Brief and Specification and the building contractor's programme of works and time-table.

3.4 If unexpected remains are encountered SCCAS/CT must be informed immediately. Amendments to this specification may be made to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

4. Specification

4.1 The developer shall afford access at all reasonable times to SCCAS/CT and the contracted archaeologist to allow archaeological monitoring of building and engineering operations which disturb the ground.

4.2 Opportunity must be given to the contracted archaeologist to hand excavate any discrete archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations, retrieve finds and make

measured records as necessary. Where it is necessary to see archaeological detail one of the soil faces is to be trowelled clean.

4.3 All archaeological features exposed must be planned at a scale of 1:20 of 1:50 on a plan showing the proposed layout of the development, 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.

4.4 A photographic record of the work is to be made of any archaeological features, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies/high resolution digital images.

4.5 All contexts must be numbered and finds recorded by context. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum.

4.6 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeo-environmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from 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.

4.7 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed with SCCAS/CT during the course of the monitoring).

4.8 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Historic Environment Record.

5. Report Requirements

5.1 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principles of *Management of Archaeological Projects* (*MAP2*), particularly Appendix 3.This must be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record within three months of the completion of work. It will then become publicly accessible.

5.2 The project manager must consult the County Historic Environment Record Officer to obtain an event 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.

5.3 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*.

5.4 The project manager should consult the SCC Archive Guidelines 2008 and also the County HER Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive.

5.5 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 proper deposition (http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html).

5.6 The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record 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.

5.7 A report on the fieldwork and archive, consistent with the principles of *MAP2*, particularly Appendix 4, must be provided. The report must summarise the methodology employed, the stratigraphic sequence, and give a period by period description of the contexts recorded, and an inventory of finds. The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its interpretation. The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the

results, and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).

5.8 An unbound copy of the assessment report, clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to both SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and SCCAS/CT.

5.9 Following acceptance, two copies of the assessment report should be submitted to SCCAS/CT. A single hard copy should be presented to the County Historic Environment Record as well as a digital copy of the approved report.

5.10 A summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology*, must be prepared and included in the project report.

5.11 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 Historic Environment Record. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.

5.12 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.

5.13 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to County Historic Environment Record. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

Specification by: Dr Jess Tipper

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Date: 18 January 2010 Reference: /EastLaneBawdsey2010

This brief and specification remains valid for six months from the above date. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the authority should be notified and a revised brief and specification may be issued.

If the work defined by this brief forms a part of a programme of archaeological work required by a Planning Condition, the results must be considered by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council, who have the responsibility for advising the appropriate Planning Authority.

Appendix 2. Contents of the stratigraphic archive

Type	Quantity	Format
Section drawing sheets	3	420 x 300mm drawing film
Digital images (HAE 014–031)	18	3648 x 2736 pixel .jpg
This monitoring report (SCCAS report no. 2010/221)	1	A4 comb-bound

Appendix 3. Digital image register

Code	No	Description
HAE	014	Junction of Plot 2 and Plot 3, East Lane frontage, looking NW
HAE	015	Ditto, wider view
HAE	016	Ditto, even wider view
HAE	017	Foundation trench for east wall of Plot 4, looking south
HAE	018	Foundation trench for SE corner of Plot 4, looking NW
HAE	019	Central part of west-facing section, east wall of garage for Plot 12, looking east
HAE	020	Northern end of west-facing section, east wall of garage for Plot 12, looking NE
HAE	021	Southern end of west-facing section, east wall of garage for Plot 12, looking SE
HAE	022	Central part of south-facing section, north wall of garage for Plot 12, looking NW
HAE	023	Deposits 0098, 0099 and 0104, at S end of NS section in Plot 11 (see section 23) (0.5m scale)
HAE	024	Pit 0108 in NS section in Plot 11 (see section 23, sheet 16) (0.5m scale)
HAE	025	Deposits 0110, 0111, 0112 and 0114 in NS section in Plot 11 (see section 23, sheet 16) (0.5m scale)
HAE	026	Deposits 0113, 0114 and 0115 in NS section in Plot 11 (see S. 23, sheet 16) (0.5m scale)
HAE	027	Deposits 0115, 0116 and 0117 in NS section in Plot 11 (see section 23, sheet 16) (0.5m scale)
HAE	028	Ditto (close up)
HAE	029	Deposit 0120 at E end of EW section in Plot 11 (see section 24, sheet 17) (0.5m scale)
HAE	030	General view of N half of NS section in Plot 11, looking NE (see section 23, sheet 16)
HAE	031	General view of S end of NS section in Plot 11, looking SE (see section 23, sheet 16)