

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2010/036

**Waterwood Cottage, Abbey Road, Butley
BUT 073**

HER Information

Planning Application No: C/07/2347

Date of Fieldwork: 29th January and 16th February 2010

Grid Reference: TM 3730 4929

Funding Body: Sir Edward Greenwell

Curatorial Officer: Jess Tipper

Project Officer: Linzi Everett

OASIS ID: suffolkc1-89350

Summary

Monitoring of groundworks for a new dwelling at Waterwood Cottage, Butley, was carried out as a condition of the planning consent in order to record any archaeological evidence revealed. Strip foundations revealed no archaeological interventions one sherd of medieval pottery was recovered as an unstratified find whilst various examples of worked masonry were found amongst the cottage demolition rubble. These are almost certain to have originated from Butley Abbey, and had been incorporated into the largely brick built cottage walls.

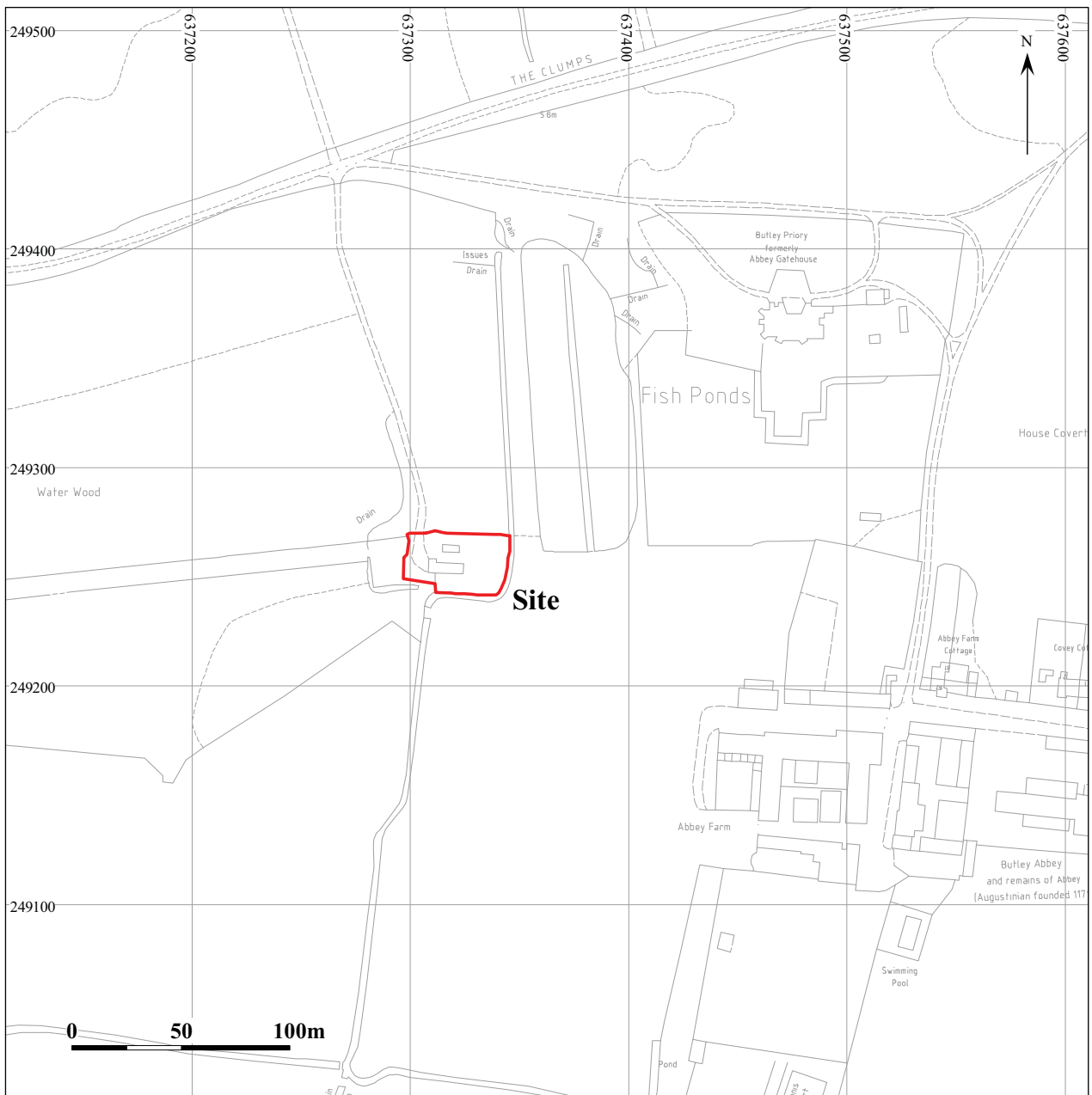
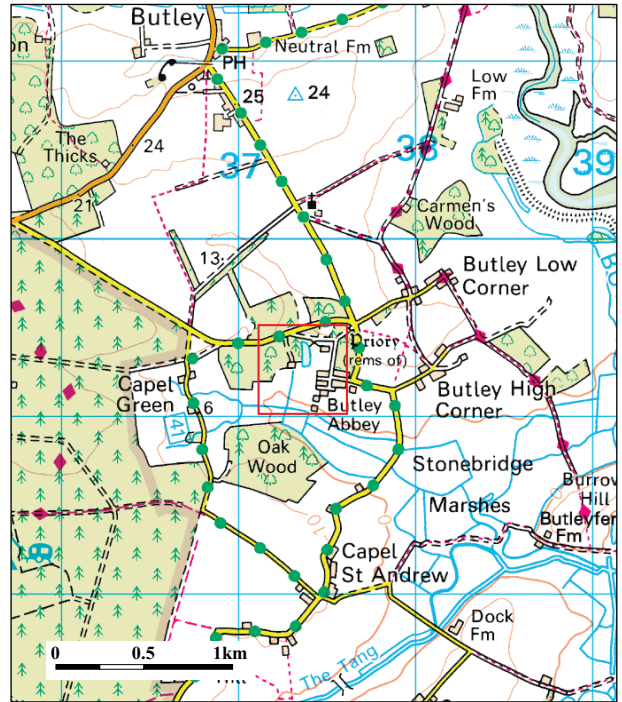
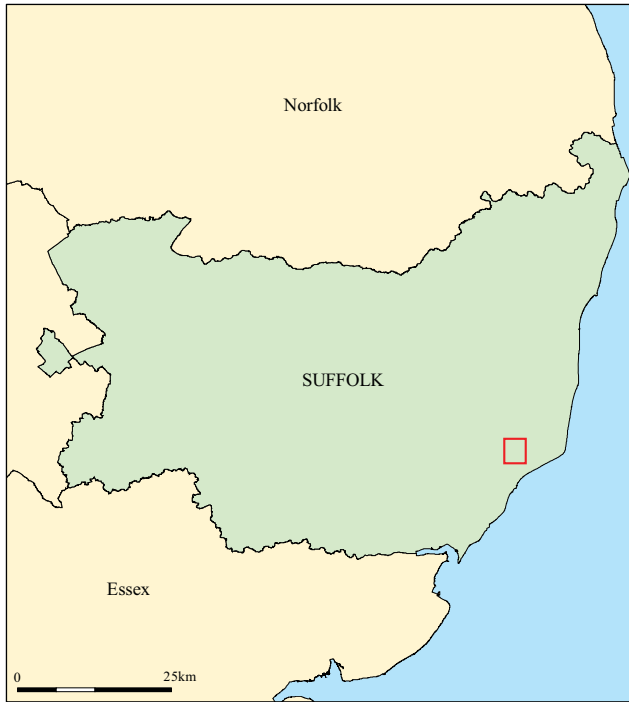
1. Introduction and methodology

At Waterwood Cottage, Butley, planning permission for the demolition of existing buildings and replacement with a new dwelling and garage required a programme of archaeological works as a condition of the consent. The site lies at TM 3730 4929 (Fig. 1), at a height of approximately 5m OD.

Two visits were made to the site by the Field Projects Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS) in order to inspect the excavated groundworks. The site was recorded under the HER (Historic Environment Record) code BUT 073. A Brief and Specification for the archaeological work was produced by Jess Tipper of the SCCAS Conservation Team (Appendix II). The fieldwork was commissioned by Sir Edward Greenwell. The monitoring archive is held in the County HER in Bury St. Edmunds.

2. Archaeological and historical background

The site lies within 150m of the standing remains of Butley Abbey, an Augustinian priory founded in the twelfth century. Waterwood Cottage sits within a ditched enclosure associated with the abbey water management system and fishponds. It was felt that the location had high potential for the survival of medieval or other activity.



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Figure 1. Site location

3. Results

The first visit followed the demolition of the existing cottage and associated buildings, whilst the site was being scraped of vegetation and topsoil. These groundworks did not impinge on archaeological levels, remaining within the topsoil layer. Within the demolition rubble were occasional worked masonry fragments which had clearly been incorporated into the fabric of the demolished building as they were mortared to red bricks or had modern render attached to surfaces. Three squared and faced blocks were noted, as was a damaged capital (0003; Plate 1).

The second visit was in order to monitor the excavation of shallow ground beams which measured 0.5m wide and 0.6m deep. The location of these are shown on Figure 2. The groundworks were excavated through broadly the same stratigraphy:

- *Topsoil* 0.2m dark brown loamy sandy with root disturbance. Mixed with building rubble from the demolished cottage, in places.
- *Subsoil* Dark greyish brown slightly humic sand, 0.2m thick in the southern part of the site, increasing 0.4m thick in the north. A fairly homogenous layer, very infrequent small stones and no artefactual evidence recovered.
- *Natural subsoil* Clean, yellow sand.

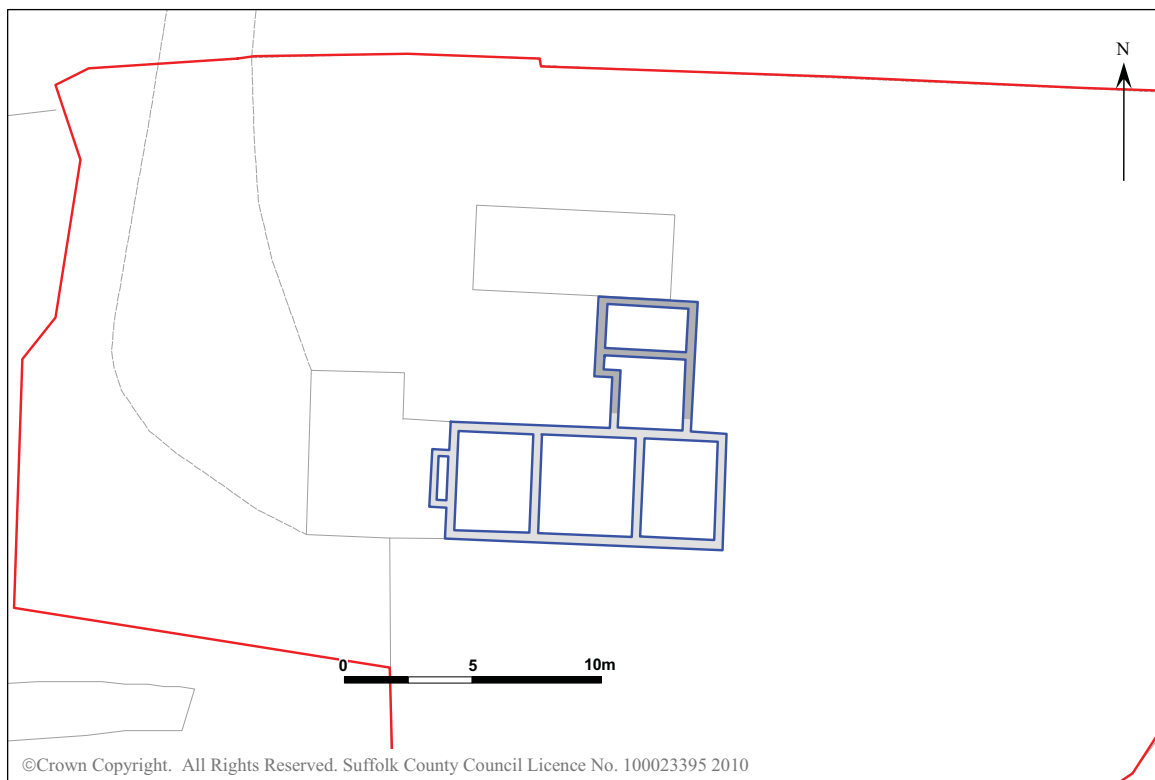


Figure 2. Location of excavated ground beams. The darker blue area to the north represents deeper subsoil deposits

The subsoil layer may be an alluvial deposit associated with water meadows or the water management systems known to have been used by the abbey. No archaeological interventions were observed within the trenches. A worked stone and a single sherd of medieval coarseware pottery were recovered as unstratified finds from the spoil heap.

4. Finds evidence (Richenda Goffin)

Introduction

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

Context	Pottery		Stone		Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	
0001	1	47	2	-	13th-14th C
0003			1	-	M13th- M14th C
Total	1	47	3		

Table 1. Finds quantities

Pottery

A single abraded unstratified body sherd from a medieval jug was recovered from the monitoring (47g). It resembles a fragment of Grimston ware in appearance, having a grey reduced core, and an olive glaze with strips coloured with iron oxide. However it has a fine sandy fabric with some silty bands. The fabric is similar to Hollesley-type ware, and it may be a glazed product of these kilns dating to the late 13th-14th century.

Moulded stone

Comments provided by Bob Carr

Three fragments of worked stone were collected from the monitoring. All of them have the remains of later mortar adhering to them, indicating that they have been reused. The first and largest fragment was collected from 0003. It is made from a fine-grained Caen limestone. It is highly decorated and is likely to be a respond to a pier (Plate 1). The capital shows part of a flamboyant vegetal volute, which is Early English/Transitional in style, dating from the second half of the thirteenth to the first half of the fourteenth century. The fragment is part of a double respond springing in two directions, so that the capital would have rested on a pair of shafts. There are two types of mortar adhering to the external surface, and regular mesh impressions on one of the faces indicating keying for a cement mortar. There are possible traces of pigment still adhering on certain areas of the moulding. The underside of the capital shows both circular and linear setting out marks incised into the stone.

A second block made of smooth fine-grained Caen stone was recovered. The stone has

a projection which is shield-shaped in section, but has two rebates for keying in behind, which were less neatly dressed and clearly not meant to be visible. It is possible that the stone formed part of a mullion for a large window. There is a possible maker's mark.

A third stone was made from oolitic limestone. It has roughly faced joint surfaces, and is part of an internal quoin of a splayed arch of an opening, either a window or a door. It has a triangular mason's mark incised into one of the surfaces. It also has mortar adhering to the surfaces, indicative of redeposition.



Plate 1. Decorative capital from context 0003

5. Discussion

No incised features were observed within the monitored groundworks but evidence of medieval activity was recovered from unstratified contexts. The fragments of stone recovered from the monitoring clearly derive from the nearby abbey. The capital fragment is particularly ornate, and comparatively late in date. The pottery recovered

may also be associated with activity at the priory.

As the footings only represent a small 'keyhole' into the site, further evidence of medieval or earlier activity could still survive beyond the limits of the excavated trenches.

Linzi Everett

Appendix I

CONTEXT	IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	FINDS?
0001	Topsoil	Dark brown loamy sandy with root disturbance. Mixed with building rubble from the demolished cottage	Y
0002	Layer	Dark greyish brown slightly humic sand, 0.2m thick in the S, increasing 0.4m thick in the N. Fairly homogenous, very rare small stones. Water meadow alluvium?	
0003	Unstratified finds	Worked stone fragments recovered from the cottage demolition rubble and clearly formerly incorporated into the cottage fabric- rendered and plaster attached	Y

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Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

WATERWOOD COTTAGE, 60 ABBEY ROAD, BUTLEY, SUFFOLK

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 construction of a dwelling and garage, following demolition of existing, at Waterwood Cottage, 60 Abbey Road, Butley, Suffolk IP12 3NS (TM 3732 4925), has been granted by Suffolk Coastal District Council conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (C/07/2347).
- 1.2 Assessment of the available archaeological evidence indicates that the area affected by development can be adequately recorded by archaeological monitoring (**Please contact the developer for an accurate plan of the development**).
- 1.3 This application lies in an area of archaeological importance recorded in County Historic Environment Record, within 150m of the known medieval remains of Butley abbey and within a ditched enclosure associated with the abbey water management system and fishponds (BUT 002). There is high potential for encountering medieval occupation deposits at this location. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 1.4 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 (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.
- 1.5 Before commencing work the project manager must carry out a risk assessment and liaise with the site owner, client and the Conservation Team of SCCAS (SCCAS/CT) in ensuring that all potential risks are minimised.
- 1.6 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.

- 1.7 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.
- 1.8 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 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 new dwelling and garage, principally foundation and service trenches, and any topsoil stripping/ground reduction. 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 or 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 palaeoenvironmental 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 J. Heathcote, 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 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 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: 21 August 2008

Reference: /WaterwoodCottage-Butley2008

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.