Suffolk County Council

POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2009/291

Land at Shrubbery Farm, Hubbard's Lane, Hessett, Suffolk

HTT 020

Kieron Heard
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HER information

Planning Application No:	**1087/05**
Date of Fieldwork:	**27 May 2008** **06–13 July 2009** **05–21 October 2009**
Grid Reference:	**TL 9368 6116**
Commissioned by:	**CgMs Consulting**
Funded by:	**Mr. B. Mitcham**
Curatorial Officers:	**Robert Carr** **Jess Tipper**
Project Officers:	**Andrew Tester** **Mo Muldowney** **Kieron Heard**
Oasis References:	**suffolkc1-44906** **suffolkc1-61553** **suffolkc1-89893**

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Summary

This post-excavation assessment report presents the evidence from an archaeological evaluation and subsequent phases of excavation on land at Shrubbery Farm, Hubbard's Lane, Hessett, Suffolk. It provides a quantification and assessment of the site archive and considers the potential of that archive to answer specific research questions. The significance of the data is assessed and recommendations for dissemination of the results of the fieldwork are made. In this instance it is recommended that no further analysis or reporting is required and that this assessment should be made available through the OASIS online archaeological database as a 'grey literature' report.

The site is located to the east of Shrubbery Farm and on the southern edge of the modern village. The geological stratum is glacial till.

Six worked flints of later prehistoric date and a small sherd of flint-tempered prehistoric pottery were recovered as residual finds in later deposits.

Seven fragments of Late Saxon pottery were found in a post-medieval ploughsoil and a Middle Saxon copper-alloy ansate brooch was found in the topsoil.

The earliest clear evidence for activity on the site is from the medieval period, principally the 12th–14th centuries. Several ditches produced small amounts of domestic pottery and other artefacts suggesting that there was occupation on or close to the site:

A substantial north–south ditch is interpreted as a boundary at the rear of one or more properties (farms or crofts) that fronted on Hessett Green, to the west of the site.

Other ditches to the east of the boundary ditch are interpreted as boundary / drainage features associated with a medieval field system.

1 Introduction

1.1 Site location

An archaeological evaluation and subsequent phases of excavation took place on land at Shrubbery Farm, Hubbard's Lane, Hessett, described hereafter as 'the site'. The site is centred at Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference TL 9368 6116 (Fig. 1) and encompasses an area of 5243m^2. It is bounded by agricultural land to the north and east, Hubbard's Lane to the west and housing to the south.

1.2 The scope of the project

This report was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client Mr. B. Mitcham, and produced by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS). It has been prepared in accordance with the relevant Brief and Specification documents (Carr, 2008; Tipper, 2009) and is consistent with the principles of Management of Archaeological Projects 2 (MAP2), notably appendices 4 and 5 (English Heritage, 1991). The principal aims of the project are as follows:

- Summarise the results of the archaeological fieldwork
- Quantify the site archive and review the post-excavation work that has been undertaken to date
- Assess the potential of the site archive to answer research aims defined in the Brief and Specification documents and a Written Scheme of Investigation (Craven, 2009)
- Assess the significance of the data in relation to the relevant Regional Research Framework (Brown & Glazebrook, 1997; Glazebrook, 2000)

- Make recommendations for further analysis and publication of the results of the fieldwork

1.3 Circumstances and dates of fieldwork

The fieldwork was carried out by SCCAS Field Team in response to a planning application for the erection of fourteen dwellings, associated parking and construction of vehicular access (planning application number: 1087/05). Prior to the archaeological fieldwork the western part of the site was occupied by farm outbuildings and the eastern part was a field in agricultural use.

The fieldwork was carried out in four phases (as described below), and was conducted in accordance with Brief and Specification documents issued by SCCAS Conservation Team (Carr, 2008; Tipper, 2009) and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by SCCAS Field Team (Craven, 2009). The later phases of fieldwork were informed by an archaeological desk-based assessment produced by CgMs Consulting (Darton, 2008).

An initial phase of evaluation was conducted on 27 May 2008 and comprised six evaluation trenches (numbered 1–6 on Figure 2) covering an area of 234m^2. The results of this phase of evaluation are described in SCCAS Report Number 2008/118 (Tester, 2008). The results of subsequent phases of fieldwork are described in this assessment report.

A second phase of evaluation was conducted on 06–13 July 2009. This consisted of four evaluation trenches (numbered 7–10 on Figure 2) covering an area of 108m^2.

Concurrent with the second phase of evaluation, an excavation was carried out following topsoil stripping within the area of a proposed access road. The area of investigation measured 400m^2 and is shown as Excavation Phase 1 on Figure 2.

A second phase of excavation was carried out on 05–21 October 2009. This covered an area of 1265m^2 to the east and south of the new access road, with a separate area of excavation measuring 36m^2 to the west of the road (Fig. 2, Excavation Phase 2).

In all phases of fieldwork mechanical excavators were used to remove topsoil and underlying subsoil in order to expose the surface of the natural stratum, this being the level at which all archaeological features were identified. These features were excavated and recorded in accordance with the SCCAS Manual (SCCAS, 2002). They were planned at a scale of 1:50 and drawn in section at 1:10 or 1:20, as appropriate. Additional planning (primarily used to record trench edges and the site grid) was by Total Station Theodolite (TST) or Global Positioning System (GPS).

Written descriptions of archaeological features and deposits were made on *pro-forma* context sheets and a photographic record was made consisting of high-resolution digital images. A number of soil deposits were sampled for environmental analysis. Metal detectors were used routinely on all mechanically excavated and hand-dug soils. Heights were recorded by reference to a temporary bench mark at 68.45m OD (level obtained by GPS), near the western edge of the site.

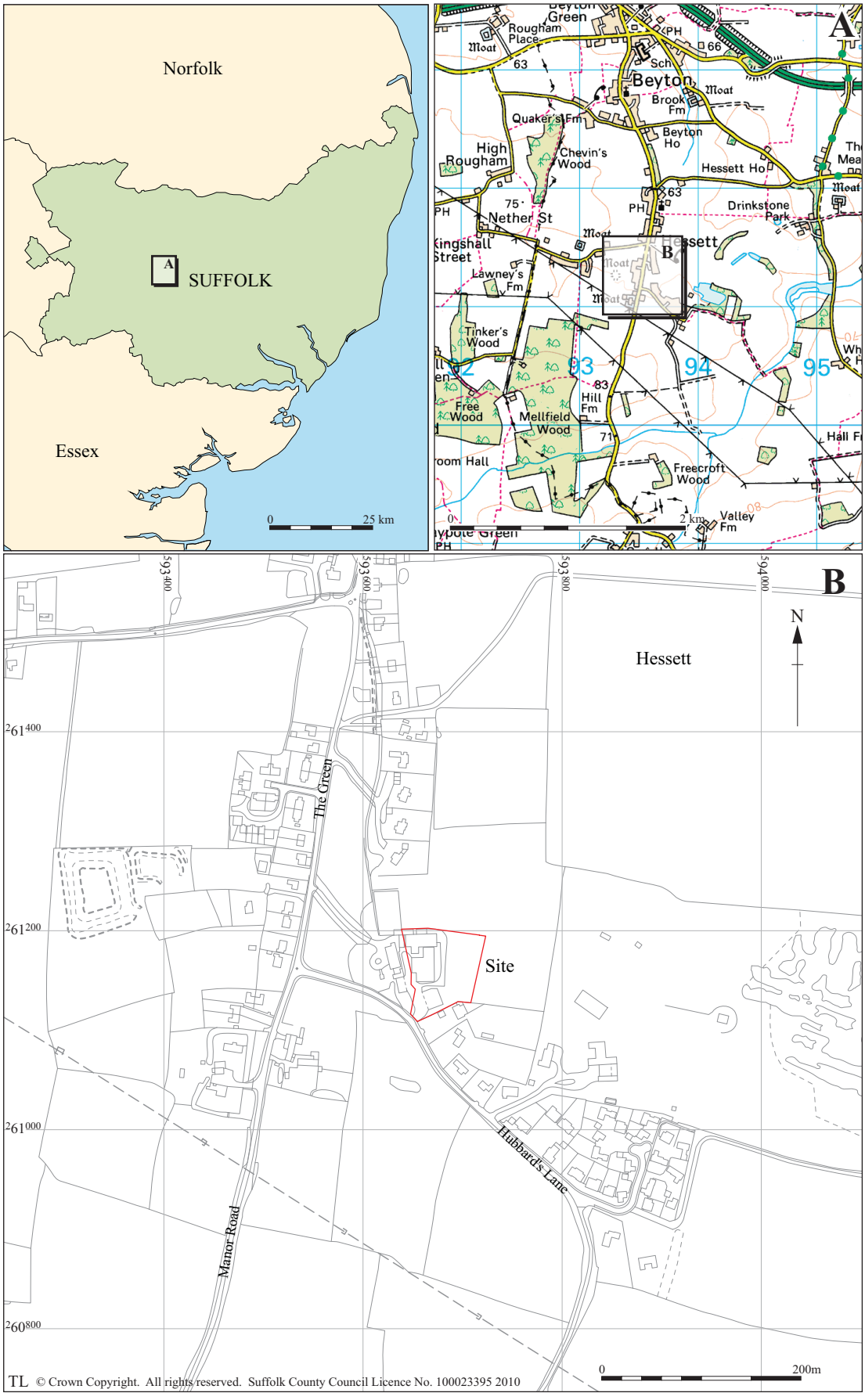

Figure 1. Location of site, showing development area (red)

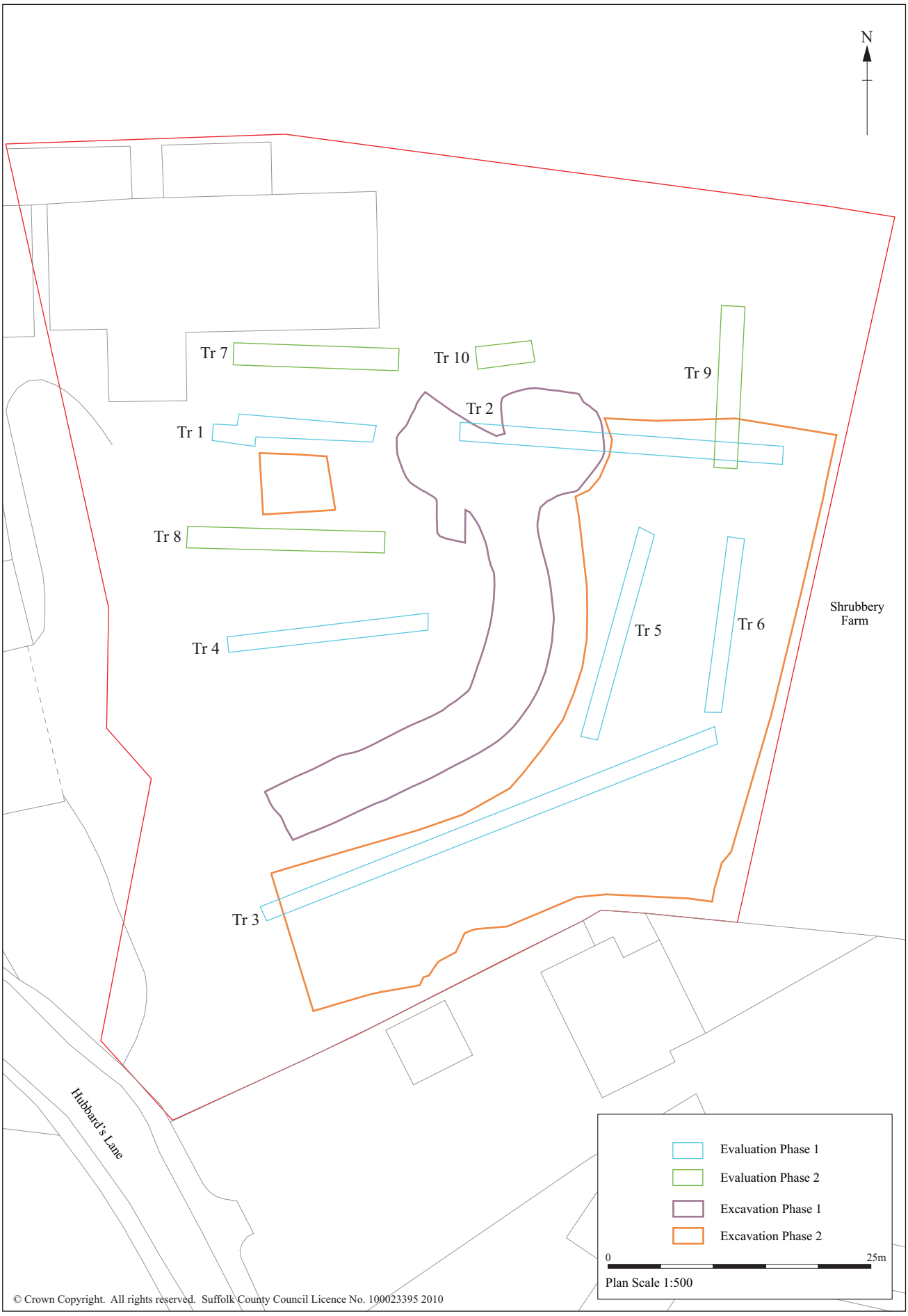

Figure 2. Plan of evaluation trenches and excavation areas

2 Geological, topographic, archaeological and historical background

2.1 Geology and topography

The published Quaternary geology on the site is glacial till (British Geological Survey, East Anglia, Sheet 52N 00, Quaternary). Deep loam to clay soils of the Ashley series (0572q) overlie the till deposits.

The site is located on fairly level ground at an average height of 68.6m OD. Ground level within the area of investigation slopes from a maximum height of 69.5m OD at the south-eastern corner of the site to 68.10m OD at its north-western corner.

The site is located in an area of Ancient Rolling Farmlands, as defined in Suffolk County Council's *Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment* (www.suffolklandscape.org.uk). The key characteristics of this landscape type are as follows:

- Rolling arable landscape of chalky clays and loams
- Dissected widely and sometimes deeply by river valleys
- Field pattern of ancient random enclosure. Regular fields associated with areas of heath-land enclosure
- Hedges of hawthorn and elm, with oak, ash and field maple as hedgerow trees
- Substantial open areas created for airfields and by post Second World War agricultural improvement
- Scattered with ancient woodland parcels containing a mix of oak, lime, cherry, hazel, hornbeam, ash and holly
- Network of winding lanes and paths often associated with hedges create visual intimacy

- Dispersed settlement pattern of loosely clustered villages and hamlets, and isolated farmsteads of medieval origin
- Farmstead buildings are predominantly timber-framed, the houses are colour-washed and the barns blackened with tar. Roofs are frequently tiled, although thatched houses can be locally significant
- Villages often associated with village greens

2.2 Archaeology and History

The archaeological and historical backgrounds to the site investigation are described fully in the desk-based assessment (Darton, 2008) and the following summary is drawn largely from that report:

Prehistoric

A large, bronze socketed axe dating to the Bronze Age was found by a metal detectorist in a field approximately 200m northeast of the site (HTT 017). It is understood that more recently a group of similar artefacts has been found in the same general area (Mr. B. Mitcham, *pers comm*).

Roman

There are no recorded Roman sites or find spots within 500m of the site.

Anglo-Saxon

A strap end and a disc brooch were found by a metal detectorist in a field approximately 470m northwest of the site (HTT 015).

Medieval

A plough-damaged medieval homestead moat enclosing an area of 40m x 30m is located approximately 200m west of the site (HTT 001). A moated site at Hessett Hall is located approximately 600m northwest of the site (HTT 002). A third medieval moated site is located at Spring Farm, approximately 150m southwest of the site. The parish church of St Ethelburt, located approximately 600m north of the site, dates to at least the 14th century.

The disposition of these moated sites and the parish church around the former village green suggests that late medieval Hessett was a multi-focal settlement rather than a nucleated village.

Post-medieval and modern

The origins of Shrubbery Farm are not known. The tithe map and apportionment of 1839 show a Farm House and Homestead (no. 120) on the site of the present Shrubbery Farm and it is assumed that this was the building that exists today. The eastern half of the site was located within Mitchell's Orchard and Pasture (no. 121).

The farm house stood at the south-eastern corner of Great Green (no. 312). Suffolk County Council's *Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment* defines a village green as follows:

> *Traditionally, this was a term used to describe an area of grassland used for communal grazing by a defined group of common-right holders. Greens were (and sometimes still are) fringed by the houses and farmsteads of the common-right holders. Archaeological evidence suggests that some greens started to be established in the 11th century, but with greater numbers following in the 12th and 13th centuries…Many greens were enclosed in the 18th and early 19th centuries, but often their outlines survive as 'ghosts' in the landscape.*

In Hessett the boundary of the village green can indeed be traced in the modern landscape. The ditch that defined its eastern boundary can still be seen in front of the houses along the eastern side of the village and is of such a size that bridges are required to provide access to those properties. At its southern end (in the vicinity of Shrubbery Farm) the ditch has been mostly backfilled, but it is clear that it passed to the west of the farm house. It is labelled 'drain' on Ordnance Survey maps.

3 Original research aims

The original research aims of the project were defined in the Brief and Specification for the archaeological evaluation (Carr, 2008). The research aims were as follows:

OR1: *Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation in situ [at the discretion of the developer].*

OR2: *Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.*

OR3: *Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses and natural soil processes. Define the potential for existing damage to archaeological deposits. Define the potential for colluvial/alluvial deposits, their impact and potential to mask any archaeological deposit.*

OR4: *Establish the potential for waterlogged organic deposits in the proposal area. Define the location and level of such deposits and their vulnerability to damage by development where this is defined.*

In light of the results from the evaluation a Brief and Specification for archaeological excavation was produced (Tipper, 2009) that contained the following site-specific research aim:

OR5: *The academic objective will centre upon the potential for this site to produce, in particular, evidence for medieval and possibly earlier occupation, in the form of finds and features.*

4 Site sequence: results of the fieldwork

4.1 Introduction

The following is a chronological summary of the results of the fieldwork. For the purposes of this post-excavation assessment the archaeological deposits and features have been assigned to *Groups* of contexts that are related stratigraphically (numbered G1001–G1042), and the most significant groups are described below. A complete list and brief descriptions of the groups are presented in Appendix 2.

All archaeological features are shown on Figure 3, and they are illustrated in detail on Figures 4–10. Phase plans for the medieval and post-medieval/modern periods are shown on Figures 11 and 12, and a number of undated features are shown on Figure 13.

4.2 Natural stratum

The natural stratum (G1001) was a deposit of firm, light yellowish brown clay/silt containing varying amounts of flint and large pockets or veins of clayey sand and crushed chalk. It is interpreted as glacial till, or boulder clay. It was recorded at a maximum height of 69.19m OD in the south-eastern corner of the site, and sloped down to a minimum recorded height of 67.91m OD in the north-western area of the site.

Three linear features (G1017, G1025 and G1027) found in Trenches 5, 6 and 9 were recorded originally as archaeological features but were proved subsequently (during the second phase of open-area excavation) to be natural erosion features; they are not illustrated in this report.

4.3 Prehistoric (4000 BC – AD 43)

No prehistoric features were found. Six worked flints of later prehistoric date (probably Late Bronze Age / earlier Iron Age) and a small sherd of flint-tempered pottery were recovered as residual finds in later deposits.

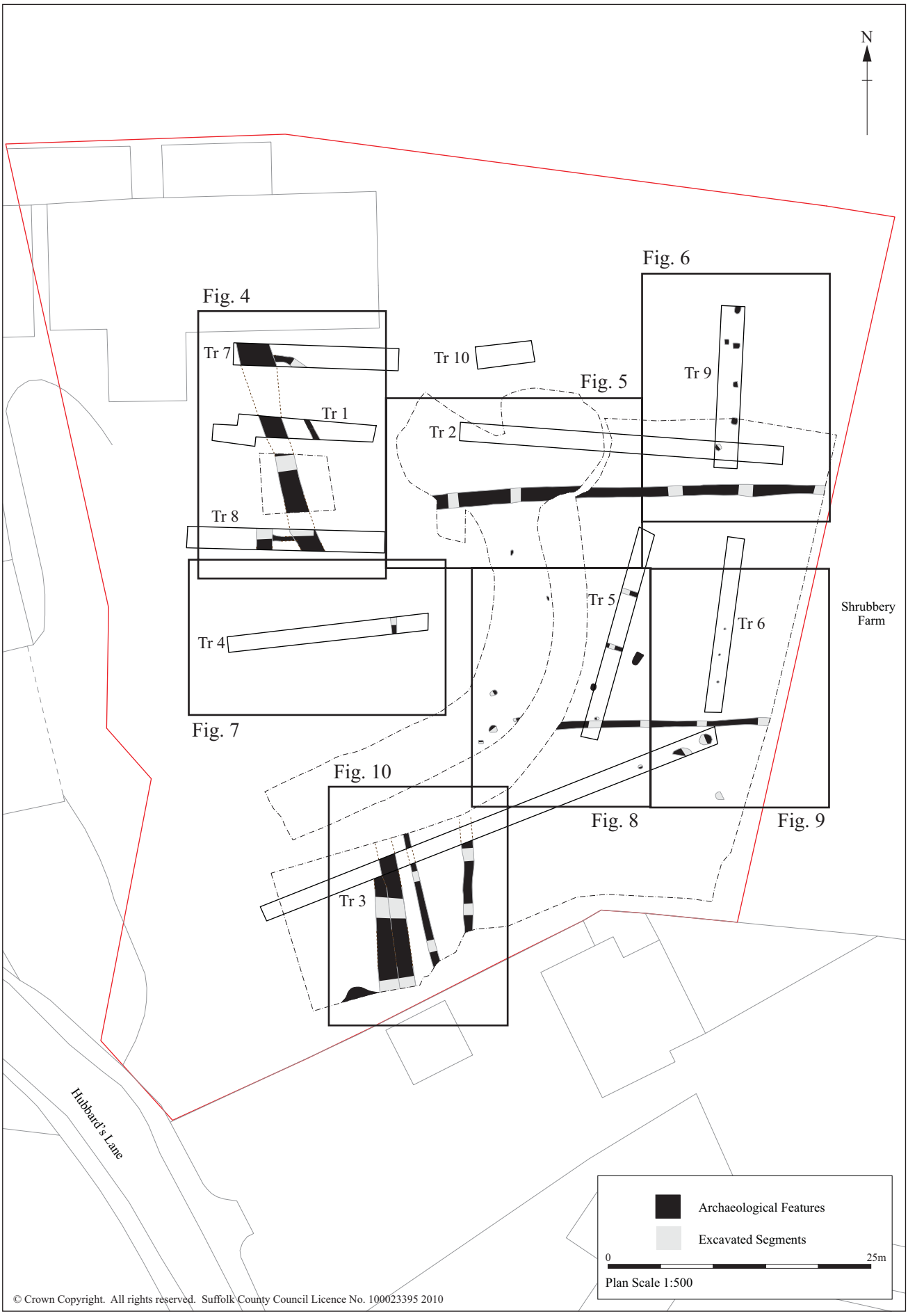

Figure 3. Key to detailed figures

4.4 Roman (AD 43 – 410)

No Roman features or finds were identified.

4.5 Anglo-Saxon (AD 410 – 1066)

No Anglo-Saxon features were found, but some artefacts were recovered as residual finds in later deposits. These include seven unstratified fragments of Late Saxon pottery (G1023), probably from subsoil deposit G1041, and a Middle Saxon copper-alloy ansate brooch found during metal-detecting of topsoil G1042 at the north end of the new access road.

4.6 Medieval (1066 – 1500)

Several ditches and a pit produced small assemblages of medieval pottery, mostly dated to the late 12th–14th centuries; a medieval phase plan is shown on Figure 11.

Ditch G1010

G1010 was a substantial, north–south ditch close to the western edge of the site (Figs. 4, 10 & 11; Fig. 14, S.1–S.3, context 0138; S.4, context 0194; Plates 4 & 5). It was investigated at six locations and identified (though not excavated) at one other location (Trench 7). Note that in Trench 4 and Excavation Phase 1 it is assumed that the ditch was truncated and obscured by modern features.

It could be traced over a distance of 63.5m, extending beyond the limits of excavation to north and south. The ditch almost certainly terminated just beyond the southern limit of excavation (the base of the ditch rose steeply in that direction; see Fig. 14, S.3), although this could not be confirmed by excavation. The ditch had a maximum recorded width of 3.5m and an average depth of 1.4m, with steep (though irregular) sides and a narrow, concave base.

All excavated sections revealed sequences of fills that seemed to indicate gradual silting up of the ditch, rather that deliberate backfilling (see Fig. 14, S.1–S.4). Fills were mostly clayey silts, although some sandier deposits lying against the sides of the ditch were thought to indicate slumping of its sides.

Environmental samples were taken from some of the lower fills of the ditch. They were found to contain seeds of aquatic plants, shells of freshwater obligate molluscs and water flea eggs, indicating that this feature was at least seasonally wet and possibly occasionally water filled. The abundance of nettle and elderberry seeds within one of the samples may also suggest that ditch G1010, or its immediate environs, were occasionally poorly maintained, becoming overgrown with weeds and colonising shrubs.

Only small quantities of finds were recovered. Occasional, small to medium fragments of medieval pottery were recovered from fills 0036, 0064, 0151, 0153, 0186, 0187 and 0190; generally these have been dated to the late 12th–14th century. Two sherds of pottery from 0151, one of the upper fills at the south end of the ditch (see Fig. 14, S.1 & S.2), is dated to the late medieval/early post-medieval period (15th–16th century), suggesting that the ditch remained open for some considerable time. Other finds from the ditch include occasional small fragments of animal bone, a small fragment of post-medieval brick (possibly intrusive), oyster shells and mussel shells. Two notable finds from fill 0153 are a fragment of a rotary quern made of lavastone (of medieval or later date) and a small iron key (SF 1002) of probable medieval date.

Ditch G1002

G1002 was an east–west ditch measuring >34.50m long x up to 1.26m wide x 0.40m deep, with steep sides and a concave base (Figs. 5, 6 & 11; Fig. 14, S.5 & S.6, context 0178; Plate 1). It had an uncertain extent to the west and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east. The base of the ditch seemed to slope down gently to the west.

The ditch was excavated at five locations, each revealing a single fill of compact, light to mid brownish grey clayey silt. Twenty sherds of medieval pottery were recovered (from fills 0114, 0116 and 0179), the latest of which are dated to the 12th–14th century.

Ditch G1003

G1003 was an east–west ditch running parallel to and approximately 20m south of ditch G1002. It measured >20.0m long x up to 0.75m wide x 0.18m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base (Figs. 8, 9 & 11; Fig. 14, S.7 & S.8, context 0120; Plate 2). It had an uncertain extent to the west and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east. The base of the ditch seems to slope down gently to the west.

The ditch was excavated at four locations, each revealing a single fill of compact, mid greyish brown clayey silt producing eight abraded fragments of pottery dated to the late 12th–14th century.

Ditch G1004

Ditch G1004 was oriented north–south and measured >9m long x up to 1.10m wide x up to 0.47m deep, with moderately steep sides and a concave base (Figs. 10 & 11; Fig. 14, S.9, context 0170; Plate 3). It extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south and had an unknown extent to the north.

Two sections of the ditch were dug, each revealing a single fill of compact, greyish brown silty clay containing three abraded fragments of medieval pottery (dated 11th–12th century) and a fragment of animal bone.

Pit G1009

A large pit was located approximately 2m west of ditch G1010. It measured >4m east–west x >1m north–south x >1.06m deep, extending beyond the limit of excavation to the south (Figs. 10 & 11; Fig. 14, S.1, context 0165; Plate 6). It had moderately steep (but slightly irregular) sides and its base was not seen. The eastern edge of the pit had been removed partially by post-medieval ditch G1006 (see below).

The pit contained a sequence of fills, mostly of grey clayey silt or brown clayey sand that seemed to represent gradual accumulation rather than deliberate backfilling of the pit. One of the fills (0163) appeared to have derived from the slumping of the sides of the pit, suggesting that it remained open for some time. Fill 0160 produced six abraded fragments of medieval pottery dated to the late 12th–14th century.

4.7 Post-medieval (1500 – 1900)

Two ditches and a layer of subsoil can be assigned to the post-medieval period, on artefactual evidence; a post-medieval phase plan is shown on Figure 12.

Ditch G1006

North–south ditch G1006 measured >10m long x up to 3.10m wide x up to 0.80m deep, with moderately steep (but irregular) sides and a concave base (Figs. 10 & 12; Fig. 14, S.1 & S.2, context 0135). It extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south and had an unknown extent to the north; it seems likely that it was recorded in Trench 3 as ‘modern disturbance’. The ditch ran parallel to, and had truncated the western edge of, medieval ditch G1010.

G1006 was excavated at two locations, each revealing sequences of distinct fills that suggest infilling of the ditch over a prolonged period. The fills are variously coloured deposits of compact, clayey silt containing occasional to moderate pebbles and small quantities of cultural material. The latter includes medieval and late medieval/post-medieval pottery, ceramic building material of 17th century or later date, a fragment of roofing slate (assumed to be of 19th- or 20th century date), and small quantities of animal bone, oyster shells and mussel shells.

It is understood that a ditch on this alignment, presumably G1006, ran south from Shrubbery Farm and was open until *c.*1950 (Darton 2008, 11).

Ditch G1032

Curvilinear ditch G1032 (in Trench 7) measured >3m long x 0.80m wide x 0.46m deep, with an irregular U-shaped profile (Figs. 4 & 12). Lower fill 0059 was friable, mid brownish orange silty sand with occasional pebbles and small fragments of chalk. Upper fill 0058 was compact, mid reddish grey silty clay with frequent pebbles that produced a small fragment of post-medieval ceramic building material (CBM). The full extent of the ditch is unknown, as it was not indentified beyond the confines of Trench 7.

Ploughsoil G1041

A layer of compact, mid brown loam (G1041) is assumed to represent a post-medieval ploughsoil, or modified subsoil. It was approximately 0.25m thick and extended site-wide, except where removed by modern intrusions. It was excavated by machine in order to expose the underlying natural stratum (G1001), this being the level at which archaeological features could be identified. For this reason the stratigraphic relationship between this deposit and many of the archaeological features could not be determined; however, where seen in section the ploughsoil obviously sealed all of the medieval features (Fig. 14, S.4, context 0185; Fig 14; S.5 & S.7, context 0181).

The ploughsoil was overlaid by the current topsoil (G1042).

4.8 Modern (1900 – present)

A number of modern features were recorded and these are shown collectively on Figure 12. They have been dated by the artefacts they contained or by the nature of their fills, which in some cases were indistinguishable from the current topsoil. They included service trenches and land drains (G1007 and G1012), individual postholes or lines of postholes, sometimes containing decayed timber posts (G1008, G1013, G1024 and G1028), a dumped deposit (G1011), structural cuts associated with recently demolished buildings (G1016, G1026 and G1031), plough disturbance (G1020 and G1022), a pit (G1021) and three animal burials (a chicken G1029, a cat G1036 and a pig G1038).

Modern topsoil G1042 was up to 0.25m thick and extended site-wide, except where removed by modern intrusions or truncated as a result of the current redevelopment of the site.

4.9 Undated

There were several undated features, mostly truncated pits. They are shown collectively on Figure 13.

A narrow, linear cut feature in Trench 1 (G1014) contained small amounts of animal bone and fired clay, but its date and function are unknown.

Shallow pit G1015 in Trench 6 contained a large number of pig bones (mostly from the same animal) but no datable finds.

Pit G1018 in Trench 3 contained occasional animal bones but no datable material; its function is unknown. Nearby, pit 0024 (G1019) contained lenses of charcoal but no cultural material or ecofacts.

Pits G1033, G1034, G1035 and G1037 were truncated heavily, surviving to only 0.10m or less in depth. A few animal bones were recovered from G1033, but none of the pits produced datable finds.

Pit G1039 produced a prehistoric worked flint, but the nature of the fill suggests that the pit is relatively recent in date.

Pit G1040 was oval, measuring >0.85m long x 0.75m wide x 0.45m deep with near-vertical sides breaking sharply into a flat base. Its fill 0128 was friable, mid brownish grey clayey silt containing frequent charcoal flecks, occasional small fragments of fired clay and bone, and two prehistoric worked flints that are assumed to have been residual.

Ditch G1005 was oriented approximately north–south and was located approximately 4m west of medieval ditch G1004. It measured >13.50m long x

up to 0.75m wide x 0.26m deep, with moderately steep sides and a concave base. It extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south and had an unknown extent to the north.

Two sections of the ditch were excavated, each revealing a single fill of compact, mid brown silty clay. One fragment of pottery dated to the late 12th–13th century was recovered from fill 0175, but it is not considered sufficient evidence to provide a firm date for the ditch.

North–south ditch G1030 (in Trench 8) measured >2m long x 1.26m wide x 0.50m deep, with moderately steep sides and a flat base. Its fill 0055 was compact, mid greyish brown silty clay containing one sherd of medieval pottery (dated to the late 12th–14th century), which is not considered sufficient evidence to provide a firm date for the ditch.

The extent of ditch G1030 is not known; it might have continued as far south as Trench 4, where an unexcavated feature was identified on the same alignment. It was not identified to the north of Trench 8.

Unspecified cut feature G1043 produced a small quantity of animal bone but no datable artefacts.

Figure 4. Detailed plan

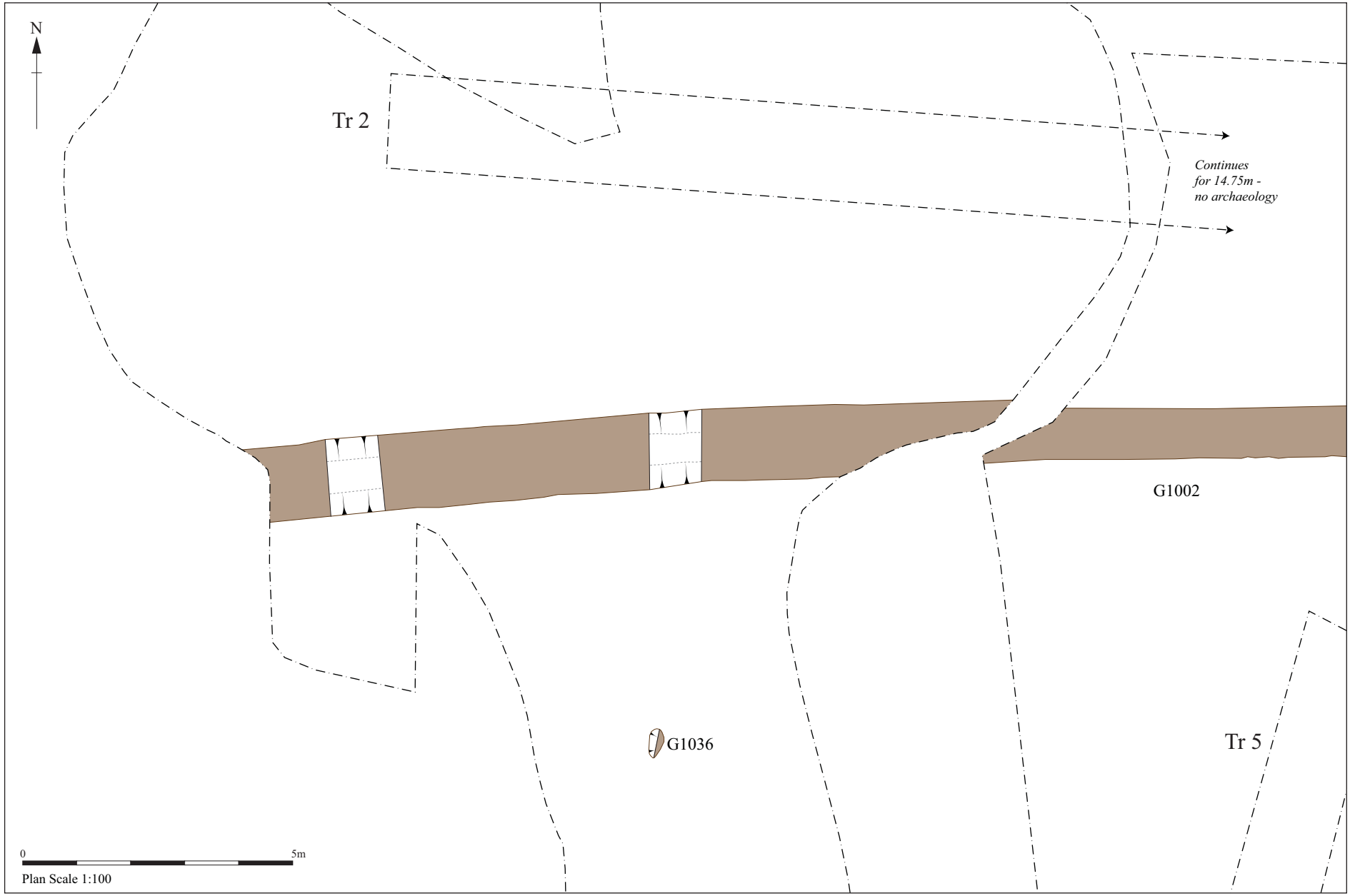

Figure 5. Detailed plan

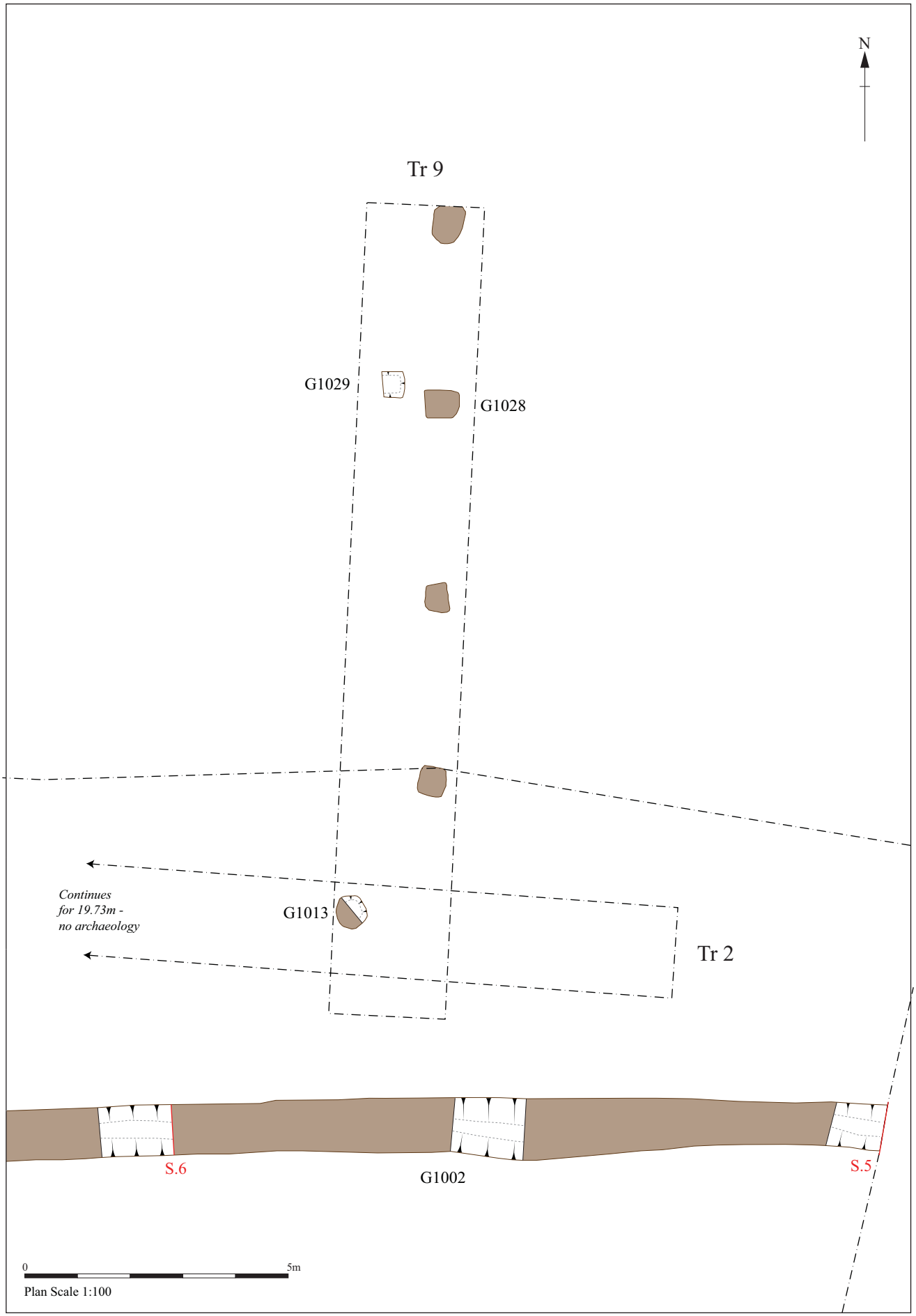

Figure 6. Detailed plan

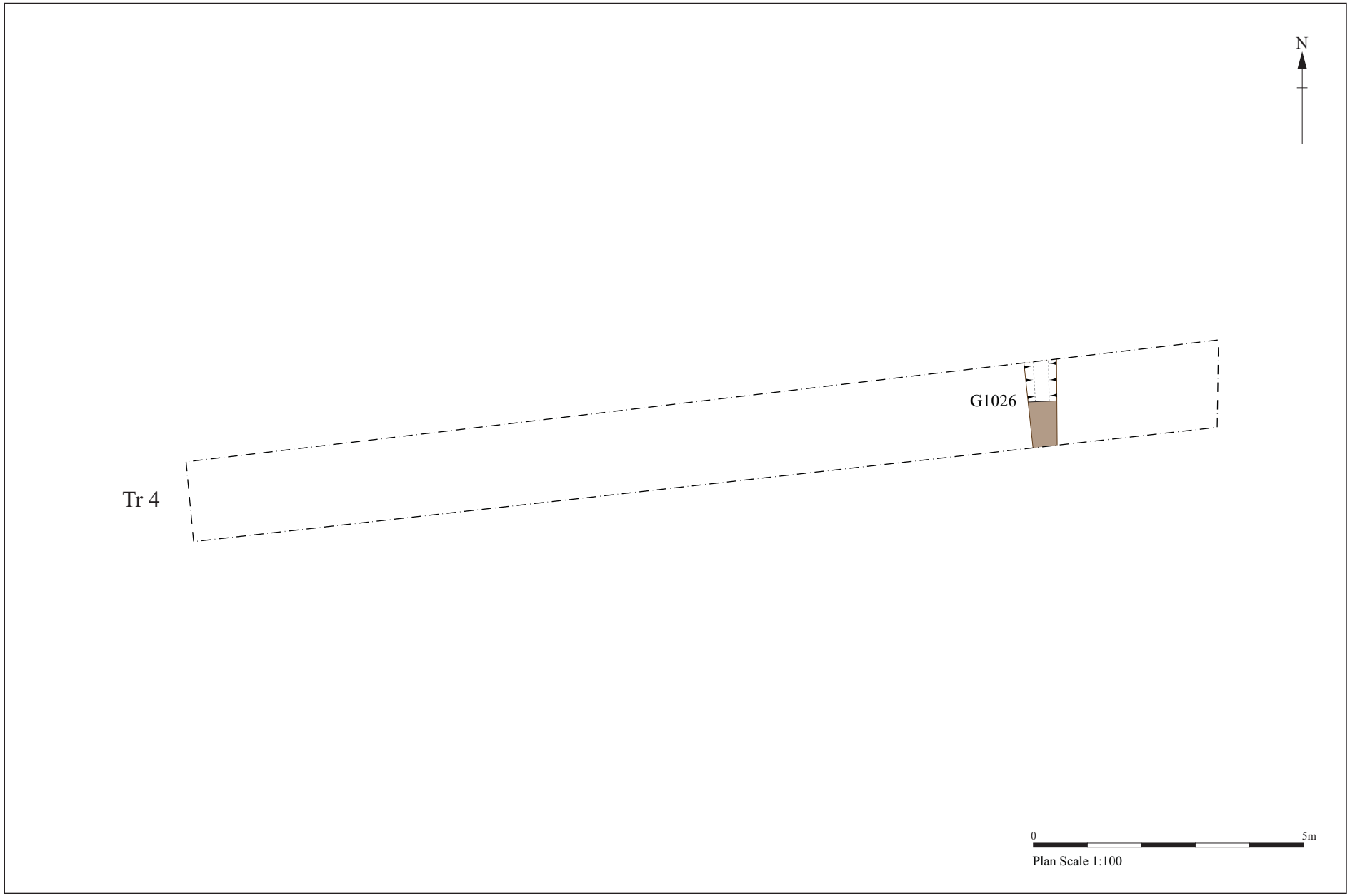

Figure 7. Detailed plan

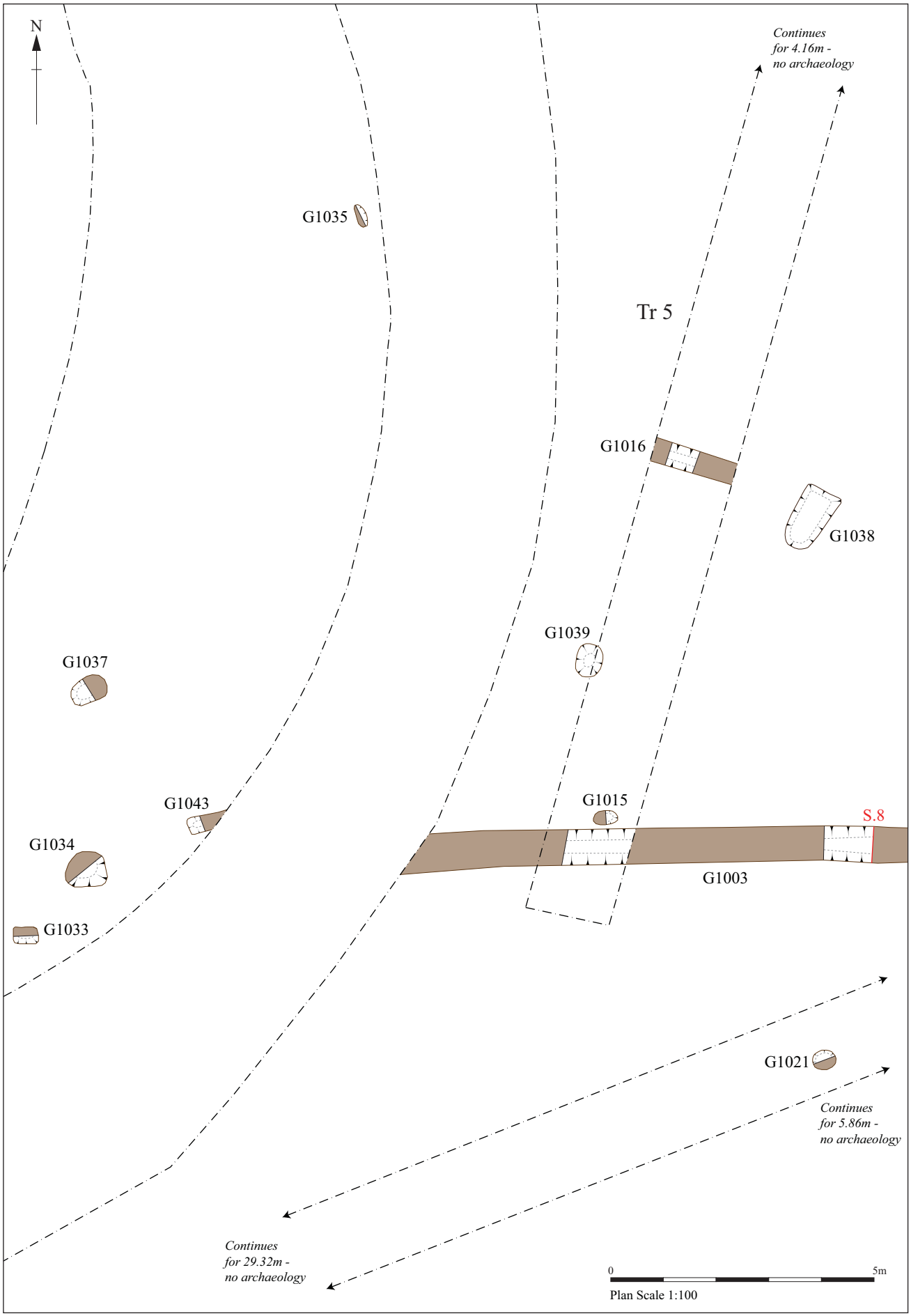

Figure 8. Detailed plan

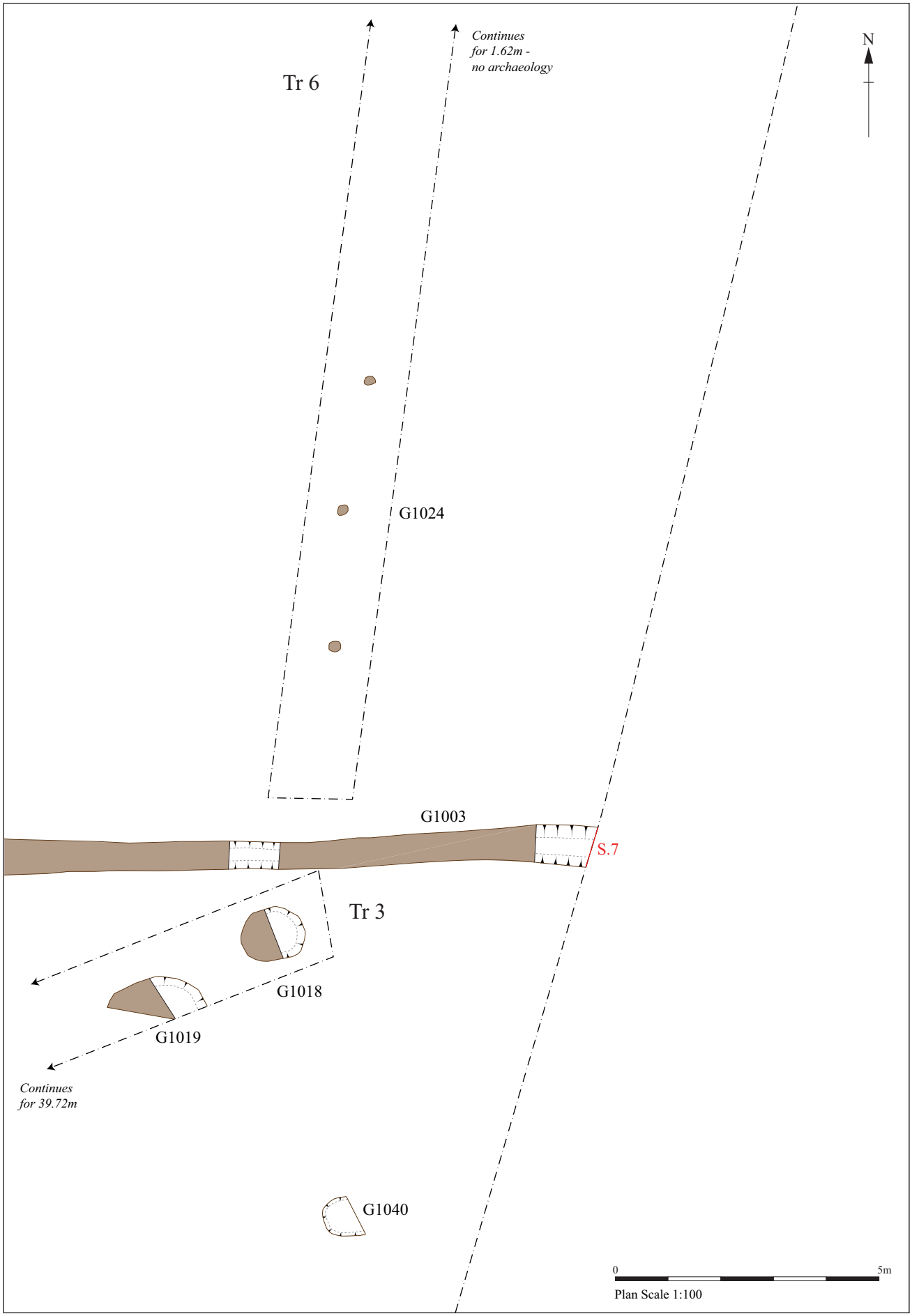

Figure 9. Detailed plan

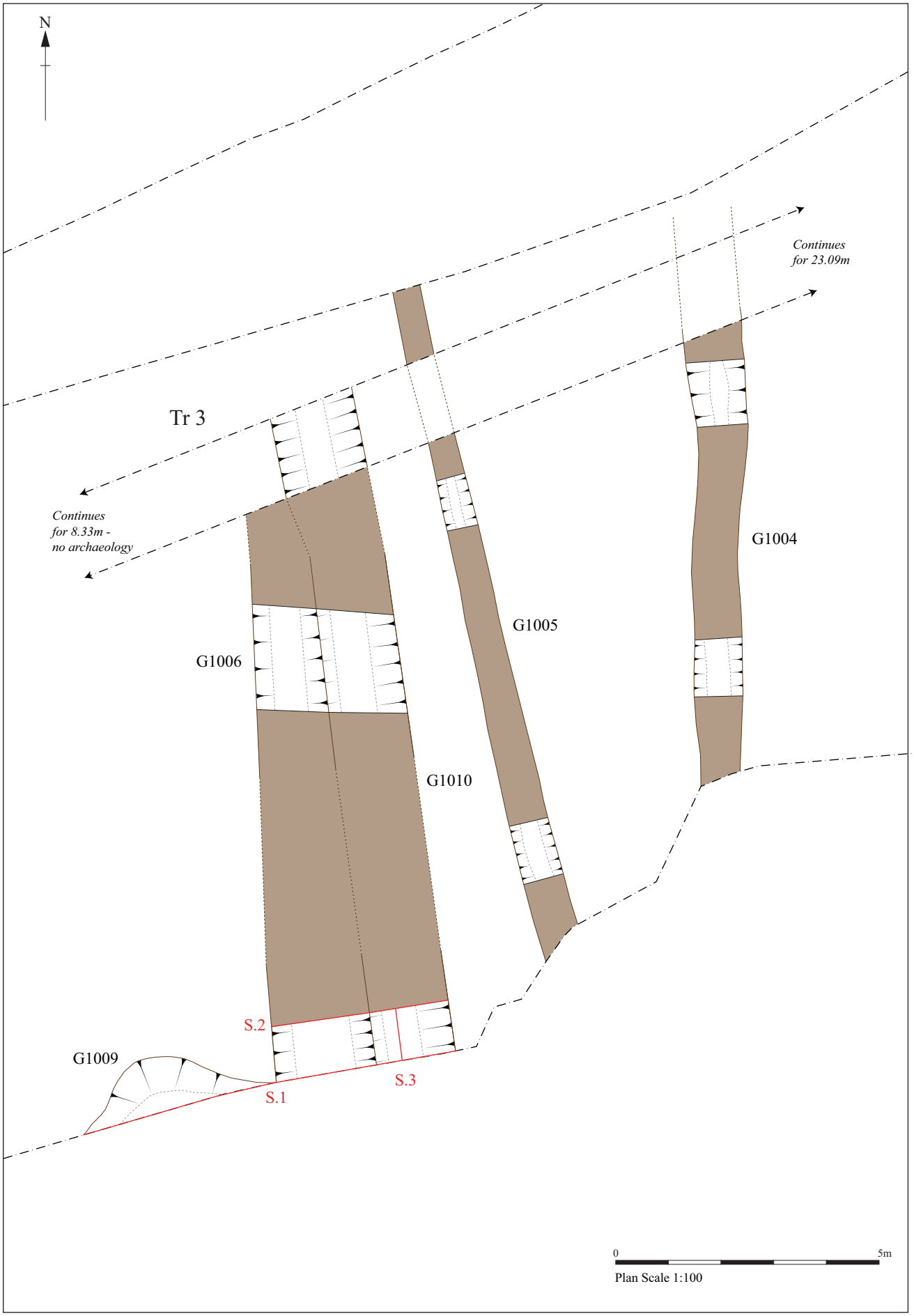

Figure 10. Detailed plan

5 Quantification and assessment

5.1 Post-excavation review

The following post-excavation tasks have been completed for the stratigraphic, finds and environmental archives:

Task 01: Completion and checking of the primary (paper and digital) archive
Task 02: Microsoft Access database of the stratigraphic archive
Task 03: Microsoft Access database of the finds archive
Task 04: Catalogue and archiving of digital colour images
Task 05: Contexts allocated to Groups
Task 06: Group description/discussion text
Task 07: Survey data uploaded and converted to MapInfo format
Task 08: Plans digitised and integrated with survey data
Task 09: Processing, dating and assessment of finds
Task 10: Processing and assessment of environmental samples

5.2 Quantification of the stratigraphic archive

The stratigraphic archive is quantified in Table 1:

Type	Quantity	Format
Context register sheets	4	A4 paper
Context recording sheets	139	A4 paper
Trench recording sheets	3	A4 paper
Environmental sample register sheets	3	A4 paper
Environmental sample sheets	6	A4 paper
Small find register sheets	1	A4 paper
Plan register sheets	2	A4 paper
Section register sheets	2	A4 paper
Section drawing sheets	4	320 x 290mm gridded film
Section drawing sheets	3	420 x 300mm gridded film
Plan drawing sheets	8	320 x 290mm gridded film
Plan drawing sheets	10	420 x 300mm gridded film
Combined plan and section drawing sheets	1	A1 film
Photographic register sheets	2	A4 paper
Digital images (film code GDW 018–077)	60	3008 x 2000 / 3264 x 2448 pixel .jpg
Evaluation Report (SCCAS report no. 2008/118	1	A4 comb-bound
This PXA Report (SCCAS report no. 2009/291)	1	A4 wire-bound

Table 1. Quantification of the stratigraphic archive

5.3 Quantification and assessment of the finds archive

Richenda Goffin

5.3.1 Introduction

This assessment considers the finds recovered from all phases of work at Shrubbery Farm. The finds from the first phase of evaluation were catalogued and described in the original report (Tester, 2008). The finds from the second phase of evaluation and the excavation stages have been added to the overall catalogue and are described below, along with the findings from the original evaluation.

The finds collected from the four phases of fieldwork are listed below by material type. A full catalogue by context is presented in Appendix 3. Two small finds were also recovered.

Find type	No.	Wt/g
Pottery	154	1173
CBM	23	2856
Fired clay	23	20
Stone	3	40
Lava quern	1	484
Worked flint	6	204
Animal bone	656	-
Shell	1	28

Table 2. Bulk finds quantities

5.3.2 The pottery

A total of 154 fragments of pottery was recovered from the excavations (1.173kg).

The assemblage is mostly medieval, with a small quantity of earlier material, and a few fragments that are late medieval to early post-medieval in date. Most of the pottery consists of small and medium-sized body sherds, but some rims are also present. There are no complete vessel profiles or substantial remnants of vessels that are worthy of illustration.

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 were 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 *pro forma* sheets by context using letter codes based on fabric and form and this has been inputted into a Microsoft Access database in the site archive.

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 SCCAS (Sue Anderson, unpublished fabric list).

Period	No. of sherds	Weight (g)	% by shd count	% by weight
Prehistoric	1	3	0.64	0.25
Late Saxon	7	58	4.54	4.94
Medieval	141	1075	91.5	91.6
Post-medieval	5	37	3.24	3.15
Total	154	1173	99.9	99.9

Table 3. Breakdown of pottery by major period

Pottery by period

Prehistoric pottery

A small and abraded fragment of flint-tempered pottery was a residual find in fill 0036 of medieval ditch G1010.

Roman pottery

No pottery of Roman date was recovered from the excavations.

Post-Roman pottery

Seven sherds of pottery dating to the Late Saxon period were identified (58g). Two Thetford-type ware jars and several fragments of a Late Saxon shell-

tempered bowl were unstratified (G1023), but probably derived from subsoil deposit G1041. A small jar with a rim similar to a common Thetford ware form (Dallas Type AB13, everted, sides expanded to wedge shape) in a reduced sandy fabric was present, as well as a smaller rim fragment of a vessel with a triangular section (Dallas type AB7). Three bowl sherds made in a corky fabric containing shell inclusions, many of which have leached out, were also present amongst this material. These also date to the Late Saxon period.

The remainder of the assemblage is made up almost entirely of medieval pottery (141 @1.075kg).

A small number of fragments of early medieval pottery was recorded, some of which were not obviously residual and may represent the earliest stratified archaeological deposits on the site. Small and abraded sherds of Early medieval wares were identified in 0166 and 0168, both fills of ditch G1004. These are dated to the 11th–12th century. The fabrics include early medieval wares and small quantities of Yarmouth-type wares. Other early medieval sherds were found with medieval coarsewares of a broader date range in fill 0160 (pit G1009) and fill 0186 (ditch G1010).

The vast majority of the pottery assemblage is made up of medieval coarsewares (113 fragments @ 895g). Much of the pottery was recovered from the series of ditches, and some of it is clearly residual. Medieval pottery was also present in fill 0160 (pit G1009).

Most of this pottery has been classified under the general term for wheel-thrown coarsewares that date from the 12th–14th century. These were made in several fabrics, ranging from coarse to fine variants, which are likely to have been produced in many different production centres within the region. A number of Medieval Coarseware Gritty ware vessels were identified, many of which had red-brown external margins with grey cores. Such fabrics have been identified at production centres at Mile End and Great Horksley near Colchester, but were probably produced at other kilns also (Drury and Petchey, 1975). Other fine buff and greywares were also present, some of

which are similar to Hollesley wares but could be other products from the eastern side of the region.

A number of fine wheel-thrown greywares showed some similarities with the Hedingham ware coarseware tradition, and were tentatively assigned this identification. However, it is quite possible that the sherds are the product of other local kilns and do not come from this Essex kiln site (Cotter 2000, 75).

For the most part the pottery consists of small and abraded body sherds, but some rim sherds enable closer dating to be suggested. The range of jar rims present in ditch G1010 for example, vary from squared flat-topped types dating to the 12th–13th centuries to a coarse jar with square rim which has a thumbed and impressed rim dating to the 13th century or slightly later. Overall it seems that the datable rims appear most frequently in the 13th century.

An abraded fragment of an unstratified Hedingham fineware jug in 0037 (G1023) is one of two medieval glazed wares present in the assemblage (Mid 12th–Mid 13th C). The second sherd, which is also unstratified, is even more abraded and laminated. It has a fine grey core and pale orange margin with the faint remains of a lead glaze still adhering. It is likely to be a local product and is similar to Hollesley Glazed ware.

Five fragments (37g) dating to the late medieval and early post-medieval period were identified. They were all made in the later medieval and transitional (LMT) ware fabrics dating to the 15th to 16th century. Three fragments of one LMT vessel were found in the basal fill 0147 of ditch G1006 along with ceramic building material of a similar and later date.

Significance of the pottery and recommendations

Although not well stratified, the presence of the Late Saxon pottery suggests some evidence for activity of this date in the vicinity. The appearance of several rims that are similar but not the same as Thetford wares is of some interest. The shell-tempered wares which are also Late Saxon have not been

identified fully, but similar sherds have been noted at Longstanton in Cambridgeshire (Sue Anderson, *pers comm*).

The presence of so much medieval pottery, which dates mainly to the 12th and 13th centuries, is a useful indicator that occupation of this date is likely to have been nearby, although the ceramics were mostly recovered from ditch fills.

The post-medieval element of the assemblage is very small, the largest quantity of pottery coming from ditch G1006.

The excavations have provided an opportunity to examine the medieval pottery which was in use in a rural parish to the southeast of Bury St Edmunds. The assemblage is small, but it shares similarities with other published groups such as Cedars Park Stowmarket, also in central Suffolk (Anderson, 2004), and the pottery recovered from recent work at Walsham le Willows (Anderson, forthcoming). The range of medieval coarseware is varied, and some of these fabrics show close similarities with Hedingham coarseware. However it is possible that this pottery was produced locally. The identification and sourcing of this material may be worthy of further investigation and analysis, but it is beyond the scope of the current work. None of the pottery requires illustration and no further analysis or recording is required.

5.3.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM) and fired clay

The assemblage

Twenty-three fragments of ceramic building material weighing 2.856kg were collected. The assemblage has been catalogued fully in a Microsoft Access database, a summary of which data is included in Appendix 3. Most of the brick and tile is small and abraded, and it was not always possible to determine the form of individual fragments.

In spite of the quantities of medieval pottery, none of the ceramic building material was considered to be medieval, even as residual elements in later

contexts. The assemblage dates overall to the post-medieval period, although there are some fragments made in early post-medieval fabrics.

The main recognisable forms are black-glazed pantiles dating from the 17th century that were recovered from the levelling deposit under the topsoil (G1011). In addition, two curved tile fragments from fills 0143 and 0144 (ditch G1006) may have been used to improve the drainage during the post-medieval period. Both are made in fine, silty pale orange fabrics with sparse red grog inclusions, and are semi-circular in profile, with similar diameters of *c.*100mm. As they are incomplete they cannot be categorised as cylindrical drain pipes, but nevertheless they may have been deliberately laid at the bottom of a trench, perhaps with a roof tile over the top. The use of roof tile for this purpose is reflected in the accepted term of 'tile-pipe' which was used to describe such land-drains. These appear to have been introduced at the end of the 18th century, before the development of more mechanically produced drainage tiles, but it is possible that they were produced earlier (http:/www.hadas.org.uk/wiki/index.php/Newsletter_037_March_1974). Fully cylindrical ceramic drain pipes dating to the later medieval period have been identified in the region but they seem to be from predominantly ecclesiastical sites (Coppack 1976; Goffin, 2007).

A smaller curved fragment made in a fine silty fabric with red pellets also from ditch fill 0132 (G1006) is also likely to be part of a drainage pipe.

Small quantities of post-medieval brick and tile were found with medieval pottery, suggesting that the latter is residual. A corner of post-medieval brick was recovered from the fill 0036 (ditch G1010), together with medieval pottery. It is made from a pale orange fabric with cream streaks and orange grog lumps, and dates to the late 17th–18th century. Part of a white-firing clay brick likely to be a floor brick or 'paviour' was found in the fill of posthole G1013. Such tiles were commonly used as flooring during the 18th and 19th centuries in East Anglia.

Twenty-three fragments of fired clay were recovered overall (20g). The individual pieces are small and abraded, and demonstrate few diagnostic features. They are for the most part made in fine silty fabrics, some of which have chalk inclusions, and other voids where organic material has disappeared.

Significance of the ceramic building material and fired clay

The small assemblage has provided useful evidence for the sequencing and dating of the ditches and other features on the site. The lack of medieval ceramic building material suggests that there were no structures built of brick and tile in the vicinity during this period, and that no medieval material had been brought in for levelling anywhere on the site. This is not unexpected, as medieval bricks and roofing tile are usually associated with the higher status dwellings that would be more typically found in an urban environment. Several fragments of post-medieval semi-circular tiles were recovered, which are likely to have been used for drainage purposes. They cannot be closely dated beyond the post-medieval period.

The fragments of fired clay recovered from the site are small and abraded, but are likely to be medieval rather than later. It is not possible to determine whether they are fragments of structural daub from walls, or whether they come from other features such as ovens.

No further analysis or recording is required on the CBM assemblage.

5.3.4 Worked flint

Identified by Colin Pendleton

The assemblage

Six fragments of worked flint were collected (204g).

A single fragment of flint was recovered from fill 0018 of modern structural cut G1016. It is an unpatinated end scraper on a thick fairly squat flake with some

added edge retouch, and it has a natural striking platform. It may date to the later prehistoric period or be more recent.

An unpatinated flake with hinge fracture was identified in fill 0058 of undated ditch G1032. It has limited edge retouch/use wear, and has a sub-triangular cross section and a natural striking platform. It is later prehistoric in date.

A large, irregular flint found in the fill 0114 of medieval ditch G1002 had been struck several times with tiny unpatinated flakes removed (possibly through some activity such as ploughing). It also has a series of larger (but still small) parallel flake scars from a single platform, which are all patinated, forming a core. This initial stage of work is likely to be prehistoric, but the second phase of the removal of the smaller flakes cannot be dated.

An unpatinated small flake was recovered from fill 0126 of undated pit G1039. It has limited edge retouch/use wear and is sub-triangular in cross-section. It dates to the later prehistoric period. Although the only artefact found in this feature, it is likely that it was redeposited.

Two flints were found in pit fill 0128 (G1040). The first is an unpatinated squat flake with hinge fracture and a natural striking platform, which is later prehistoric in date. The second flint is an unpatinated squat flake with hinge fracture and obtuse striking platform. It has limited crude edge retouch and also later prehistoric in date. The flints were found with fragments of animal bone, and small fragments of ceramic building material which were observed at the time of the excavation, so it is clear that these flakes were residual.

The significance of the worked flint assemblage

The small assemblage is relatively homogeneous in terms of the overall standard of workmanship, which is not of a high quality. This suggests that the group is likely to date to the Late Bronze Age to early Iron Age. The flint is mainly redeposited and reflects low level activity of this date in the vicinity. No further work is required on the assemblage.

5.3.5 Lavastone

A single fragment of lavastone was identified in fill 0153 of medieval ditch G1010. It is made of a hard, vesicular stone which is probably Rhenish. The stone is part of a rotary quern, and is roughly dressed on the outer edge and one face. There is one flat working surface that is worn through usage. It is 45mm in height at the outer edge. The crude dressing around the edge suggests that it is likely to be medieval or later.

5.3.6 Miscellaneous finds

Two fragments of slate were recovered from levelling layer 0140 (G1011) and ditch fill 0143 (G1006). A fragment of burnt sandstone was identified in ditch fill 0005 (G1010).

5.3.7 Small finds

(Description of brooch by Faye Minter)

Two small finds were recovered and are described below.

1. SF1001 Copper-alloy ansate brooch

   Dimensions: Complete length: 38.72mm. The bow is 3.36mm in width and the terminals 9.34mm in width.
   Topsoil 0110 (G1042).

   The brooch has flat oval-shaped terminals, each of which is decorated on its upper face with an incised quatrefoil, which has border grooves around. The bow projects at a c.45 degree angle from the terminals. It is rectangular in plan, has a D-shaped section and flares slightly towards its terminals. The remains of transverse grooves can be seen on one side of the bow. These are now worn and it is uncertain if these grooves originally ran for the entire length or width of the object. One terminal has a pair of integral pin lugs, set vertically. Corroded iron fills the perforation of one lug, presumably the remains of an iron pin, and the other lug is incomplete. The second terminal has an integral catch plate, which is set horizontally and U-shaped, with an opening at one side of its base, now filled with soil.

   This ansate brooch is broadly middle Anglo-Saxon in date (c. 650-850) and can be assigned to Thörle Group Gruppe IIA1c (Thorle 2001, tafel 13). However, its small size and the frequency of this type of ansate in Norfolk could possibly suggest local manufacture of this group, copying the continental examples from places such as Domburg, where there are parallels which are dated to c 650-750.

   Within Suffolk, there is a similar brooch from Barham (West, 1998, 119, fig. 3 no 2). There are also several parallels from Norfolk recorded on the PAS database, including NMS-B371A2 and NMS-40A306 from Grimston and NMS-1D1AF2, NMS-6C8EC3 and NMS-1D34F0 from Seething and NMS-1A06F2 from Hindringham. An additional example was identified from Bardney in Lincolnshire (PAS reference LIN-3D88E5).

2. SF1002 Iron rotary key

Dimensions: length 90mm, maximum width 34mm.
Ditch fill 0153 (G1010)

The key has a broken oval bow, and a complete shank and bit. Its dimensions and overall shape are similar to one from London found in a deposit dated by ceramics to c1270-1350 (Egan 116, fig. 89, 1998). The pottery from the ditch fill at Shrubbery Farm dates to the mid 12th-mid 13th century, but there is also a fragment of post-medieval brick in this context.

Significance of the small finds and recommendations for further work

Ansates are not considered as high-status brooches and are believed to have been worn by both men and women. The East Anglian ansate brooches are widespread and concentrated along river valleys and around 'productive' sites and the town of *Gipeswic* (Ipswich). Their distribution is consistent with that of Middle Saxon pottery and coinage.

It is recommended that the brooch is cleaned, x-rayed and illustrated. The iron key (SF1002) should also be x-rayed so it can be further identified, but does not require illustration.

5.3.8 Biological evidence

Animal bone

(Mike Feider)

Introduction

Sixty-one fragments of animal bone were recovered from the first phase of evaluation, with a further 595 fragments collected from the subsequent stages of fieldwork. The largest concentrations came from features containing what appeared to be partial skeletons of individual animals, including a cat, a chicken, and a juvenile pig.

Methodology

The remains from each context were scanned following MAP2 guidelines (Davis 1992; English Heritage 1991; 2002), with each element identified to species where possible and as unidentified otherwise. The number of fragments and any associated butchery, ageing, taphonomic and metrical

information were recorded in a Microsoft Access database which will accompany the site archive.

Condition

The remains vary in preservation. The individual bones are generally in poor to moderate condition, with frequent surface weathering and occasional gnawing. The cat remains are in very good condition, while the chicken and pig are more heavily fragmented and weathered. This is exacerbated with the pig remains, however, by them being from a juvenile individual.

Summary

The small quantity of bone from the first evaluation has already been summarised. Of the 595 remains from the later stage of work, 272 (45.7%) were identifiable to species, with most of these attributed to the three animal burials (Table 4). The bone from the first evaluation has not been included in these statistics.

Context	Feature	Cow	S/G	Pig	Cat	Chicken	Bird	Unident	Total
0052	0053	0	0	0	0	38	100	0	138
0101	0100	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	11
0105	0104	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5
0109	0108	0	0	0	79	0	0	0	79
0116	0115	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
0124	0125	0	0	41	0	0	0	186	227
0128	0129	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
0147	0135	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	3
0153	0138	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
0166	0170	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
0171	0173	0	0	0	0	0	0	120	120
0186	0194	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	3
Total		**2**	**1**	**41**	**79**	**38**	**111**	**323**	**595**

S/g = sheep/goat

Table 4. Number of animal bones by species per context

Pit fill 0052 (G1029) contained a partially articulated chicken, with thirty-eight identifiable bones and 100 other fragments of bird bone, all probably also chicken. These represent at least two individuals, with two left femurs present, although most of the remains suggested only a single bird. Elements were present from throughout the body, except the head.

Pit G1036 (fill 0109) appears to have been dug for the inhumation of a cat, which was found incomplete but articulated. Seventy-nine cat bones, mostly complete, were recovered from this feature. All of the bones present were from a fully mature individual.

Pit G1038 (fill 0124) contained a large number of 41 juvenile pig bones, including elements from most parts of the body, seemingly all from the same animal. 186 other unidentifiable fragments of bone were also present, most appearing to be from the same immature animal and representing fragile pieces which had not survived as well. Very few ends of bone survived, but a fused distal humerus suggests the pig was at least twelve-months-old when it died (Silver, 1969).

Pit G1005 (fill 0171) also had a high bone count, but all of these seemed to be tiny fragments of a scapula from an unidentified large mammal.

The remaining bones were isolated finds. Pit 0100 (G1033) contained a partial bird coracoid and ten fragments of long bone shaft. A weathered sheep/goat humerus was found in fill 0116 of ditch G1002. A cow ulna and two unidentifiable fragments of large mammal bone were recorded from ditch 0135 (G1006), and ditch 0194 (G1010) contained a partial cow molar and two unidentifiable fragments of bone. All other material was unidentifiable.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

This assemblage is too small to draw any conclusions about overall use of animals on the site. Many of the features from which the bone was recovered remain undated. The concentrations of bones seemingly from the same individual do offer some information, however.

The cat remains from pit fill 0109 (G1036) most likely simply represent the burial of a pet. Their excellent condition compared to the rest of the assemblage is suggestive of a relatively recent date for this deposit.

The chicken bones in pit fill 0052 (G1029) may represent more than one animal or one animal with a stray duplicate bone included with them. The very fragmentary nature of the remains would make any signs of butchery very difficult to find, and the lack of a skull is expected from food remains. Whether this was the disposal of food waste or the burial of a diseased animal is unclear.

The juvenile pig in pit fill 0124 (G1038) was quite large and is likely of fairly recent date. There were no signs of butchery, but the poor state of the surface of the bones would have destroyed all but the most severe marks. Found disarticulated, it was most likely consumed before disposal.

No further work is required on the animal bone assemblage.

Shell

A single fragment of oyster shell was collected from ditch fill 0132 (G1006).

5.3.9 Plant macrofossils and other remains

(Val Fryer)

Introduction and method statement

Five samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from a sequence of fills within ditch G1010, and one further sample was taken from a fill of ditch G1002.

The samples were bulk floated by SCCAS and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. Although de-watered macrofossils were recorded within three of the recovered assemblages, all were moderately robust and the retents were dried prior to sorting. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 5. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). Both charred and de-watered macrofossils were present, with the latter being denoted within the table by a lower case ‘w’ suffix.

Results

Cereal grains/chaff, seeds of common weeds and wetland plants, and tree/shrub macrofossils were present at a low to moderate density within all six assemblages. Preservation was moderately good, although the charred remains were mostly puffed, distorted and fragmented, possibly as a result of combustion at high temperatures and subsequent 'mechanical' damage.

Barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were noted along with a small number of chaff elements including bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) type rachis nodes and a possible rye (*Secale cereale*) rachis node. Charred weed seeds were rare, but did include a number of small legumes (Fabaceae). De-watered weed seeds were most common within the assemblage from Sample 1, with taxa noted including thistle (*Cirsium* sp.), wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*), dock (*Rumex* sp.) and stinging nettles (*Urtica dioica*). Wetland/aquatic plant macrofossils were scarce, but did include seeds of water crowfoot (*Ranunculus* subg. *Batrachium*) and water cress (*Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum*). Tree/shrub macrofossils, which were present within all but Sample 2, included hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell fragments, bramble (*Rubus* sect. *Glandulosus*) 'pips' and elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) seeds. Charcoal/charred wood fragments were present throughout, although rarely at a high density. De-watered root/stem fragments were abundant within the assemblages from Samples 1 and 5. Other plant macrofossils included indeterminate buds, moss fronds, prickles and thorns.

Other remains were generally very scarce. Shells of terrestrial and freshwater molluscs were recorded within all but Samples 4 and 5, although mostly as single specimens within an assemblage. Cladoceran ephippia (water flea eggs) and de-watered arthropod remains were moderately common within the assemblage from Sample 1.

Conclusions and recommendations

Although plant macrofossils are relatively scarce, the composition of the assemblages from the ditch G1010 (which include seeds of aquatic plants,

shells of freshwater obligate molluscs and water flea eggs) appear to indicate that this feature was at least seasonally wet and possibly occasionally water filled. The abundance of nettle and elderberry seeds within Sample 5 may also suggest that ditch G1010, or its immediate environs, were occasionally poorly maintained, becoming overgrown with weeds and colonising shrubs. Of the remaining plant macrofossils within Samples 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 (all from ditch G1010), including the rare charred cereals and seeds, most are probably derived from scattered refuse or wind blown detritus, which was accidentally included within the ditch fills.

With the exception of charcoal/charred wood fragments, the single assemblage (Sample 4) from ditch G1002 is particularly sparse. It is assumed that the few remains which are recorded are again derived from wind-dispersed refuse, which was accidentally incorporated within the ditch fills.

As none of the current assemblages contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), no further analysis is recommended. However, a summary of this assessment should be included within any publication of data from the site.

Sample No.	**1**	**2**	**3**	**5**	**6**	**4**
Context No.	**0005**	**0064**	**0063**	**0157**	**0190**	**0116**
Group	**G1010**	**G1010**	**G1010**	**G1010**	**G1010**	**G1002**
Cereals						
Hordeum sp. (grain)		xcf	x			xcf
(rachis node)					x	
Secale cereale L. (rachis node)					x	
Triticum sp. (grains)		x	x	x	x	
T. aestivum/compactum type (rachis nodes)	x		x			
Cereal indet. (grains)		xxfg	xfg		x	
(rachis node frag.)			x			
Dry land herbs						
Agrostemma githago L.	xcftfw					
Apiaceae indet.	xw					
Chenopodiaceae indet.					x	
Cirsium sp.	xw			xw		
Fabaceae indet.		x	x		x	
Small Poaceae indet.					x	
Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus					xw	
Raphanus raphanistrum L.(siliqua frag.)	xw				x	
Rumex sp.	xw					
R. acetosella L.					xw	
Sonchus oleraceus L.	xw					
Spergula arvensis L.					xw	
Urtica dioica L.	xw			xxxw		
Vicia/Lathyrus sp.		x				
Wetland/aquatic plants						
Ranunculus subg. *Batrachium* (DC) A. Gray	xw				xw	
Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum L.	xw					
Tree/shrub macrofossils						
Corylus avellana L.			x			x
Rubus sp.				xw		
R. sect. *Glandulosus* Wimmer & Grab	xw			xw	xw	
Sambucus nigra L.				xxw	xw	
Other plant macrofossils						
Charcoal <2mm	x	xxx	xxxx	xx	xxx	xxx
Charcoal >2mm		x	x	x	xx	
Charcoal >5mm			x	x		
Charred root/stem			x	x		
Waterlogged root/stem	xxxx			xxxx		
Indet.buds	xw					
Indet.culm node					x	
Indet. moss	xw					
Indet.prickles	xxw					
Indet.seed					x	
Indet.thorn (*Rosa* type)	xw					
Indet.twigs	xw					
Wood frags.	xw					
Molluscs						
Terrestrial species						
Carychium sp.	x					

Table 5. Plant macrofossils and other remains

Sample No.	1	2	3	5	6	4
Context No.	**0005**	**0064**	**0063**	**0157**	**0190**	**0116**
Group	**G1010**	**G1010**	**G1010**	**G1010**	**G1010**	**G1002**
Terrestrial species (continued)						
Cochlicopa sp.			x			
Trichia hispida group		x	x		x	
Vallonia sp.		x	x		x	
Vitrea sp.			xcf			
Zonitidae indet.			x			
Freshwater species						
Anisus leucostoma	xx	x	x		x	
Lymnaea sp.		x	x			
Pisidium sp.	x				x	
Succinea sp.			x			
Other remains						
Black porous 'cokey' material		x	xx			
Cladoceran ephippia	xx					
Ostracods	x					
Small mammal/amphibian bones			x			
Waterlogged arthropod remains	xxx					
Sample volume (litres)	**30**	**30**	**30**	**10**	**10**	**30**
Volume of flot (litres)	**0.5**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**
% flot sorted	**12.50%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Table 5. Plant macrofossils and other remains (cont)

Key to Table 5

x = 1–10 specimens; xx = 11–50 specimens; xxx = 5 –100 specimens; xxxx = 100+ specimens; cf = compare; fg = fragment; tf = testa fragment; w = de-watered

5.3.10 Discussion of the finds evidence

Only a small quantity of prehistoric artefacts was recovered from the excavations, and these are residual or from undated features. There appears to be no particular significance in their overall distribution.

There is some evidence of Middle to Late Saxon activity in the vicinity from the presence of Late Saxon pottery and the ansate brooch. In both cases however, these are poorly stratified. Further evidence of activity of this date in the parish is provided by other finds recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS), including another ansate of a sheet metal form (PAS reference number HTTsf1309sf9377), a silver Anglo-Saxon sceat, Series R8, dated *c*. 710–765 (SF-CA9834), several 7th century buckles (SF-DOB3F1 and

SF-D0A076), and three Late Saxon disc brooches (SF-5095A6, SF-27F435, and SF-CCF226).

The medieval pottery assemblage is of intrinsic interest as it reflects the types of wares that were reaching a rural settlement in the centre of Suffolk, but most of it consists of small fragments of coarsewares, mainly body sherds. In addition the majority of this material was recovered from ditch fills and much of it may be residual. No other finds, apart from the small quantity of fired clay, the rotary quern fragment and the iron key, are likely to be medieval.

The post-medieval ceramic finds assemblage is limited. A small number of fragments of pottery dating to the 15th–16th century were identified, but there is nothing later in date. The fragments of tiles which are likely to have been used in land drains are worthy of note, but these cannot be dated closely.

With regard to the environmental evidence, the samples from ditch G1010 have produced a range of plant and animal remains that might be expected in an agricultural setting; they contribute little to the interpretation of the site.

5.3.11 Archive location

The finds are located in the Bury Store in the Parish Box at H / 80 / 5.

6 Potential of the data

6.1 Realisation of the Original Research Aims

OR1: *Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation in situ [at the discretion of the developer].*

Realisation: Archaeological deposits and intrusive features were identified during all four phases of fieldwork and in all areas of the site. None were considered to be of sufficient importance (in the opinion of the Conservation Officers) to merit preservation *in situ*.

OR2: *Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.*

Realisation: Although finds of later prehistoric and Anglo-Saxon date were recovered, these were residual in later deposits – no prehistoric or Anglo-Saxon deposits or features were identified.

The earliest datable features were four medieval ditches and a pit (G1002, G1003, G1004, G009 and G1010), mainly dating to the 12th–14th century. The ditches were linear, oriented either north–south or east–west, and were presumably field/property boundaries or drainage features. The medieval pit G1009 was of uncertain extent and function.

A larger number of post-medieval and modern features included agricultural ditches, structural cuts, postholes, pipe trenches, areas of plough disturbance and animal burials. There were also several undated features, mainly shallow pits of unknown function.

Most of the linear features (of all periods) extended beyond the limits of excavation. Depths of deposits varied considerably; the substantial medieval ditch G1010 was up to 1.45m deep, but most of the other features (of all periods) were less than 0.40m deep. This was due in part to truncation by ploughing or by the construction of modern farm buildings and concrete slabs.

Horizontal deposits were represented only by modern topsoil G1042 and underlying former ploughsoil/modified subsoil G1041, both of which were excavated mechanically. No former land surfaces were preserved.

OR3: *Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses and natural soil processes. Define the potential for existing damage to archaeological deposits. Define the potential for colluvial/alluvial deposits, their impact and potential to mask any archaeological deposit.*

Realisation: As stated above, there has been extensive truncation of archaeological levels by ploughing or during the construction of farm buildings and concrete slabs. It is likely that most of the site was ploughed from the medieval period onwards, resulting in former ploughsoil/modified subsoil G1041. This deposit masked all archaeological features, which were recognised only at the level where they cut the natural boulder clay.

Colluvial/alluvial deposits did not exist on this relatively flat and elevated site.

OR4: *Establish the potential for waterlogged organic deposits in the proposal area. Define the location and level of such deposits and their vulnerability to damage by development where this is defined.*

Realisation: No waterlogged organic deposits (peats, etc) were identified.

OR5: *The academic objective [of the excavation] will centre upon the potential for this site to produce, in particular, evidence for medieval and possibly earlier occupation, in the form of finds and features.*

Realisation: Small amounts of later prehistoric pottery and worked flints, and Anglo-Saxon pottery and a brooch, occurred residually in later deposits. These finds indicate activity on or close to the site during those periods, but are insufficient to suggest occupation of the site.

The earliest clear evidence for use of the site dated to the medieval period, most likely during the 12th–14th century. At that time the site was divided by a number of ditches, interpreted as field/property boundaries or drainage features; a contemporary pit was found close to one of the ditches. These features produced small amounts of domestic pottery and animal bones, part of a rotary quern and a (probably medieval) iron key, together with a small assemblage of plant and animal macrofossils that might be expected in an agricultural setting; these finds are indicative of occupation in the immediate vicinity.

6.2 General discussion of potential

There is limited artefactual evidence for activity in the vicinity of the site during the later prehistoric period. A small number of worked flints occurred as residual finds in later contexts, and these have no potential for further analysis or publication. Similarly, a few fragments of Late Saxon pottery and a Middle Saxon copper alloy brooch were found, but these were unstratified or from the topsoil and provide little evidence for activity on the site during those periods. The ansate brooch is of a common type and requires no further analysis or reporting although there is a recommendation that it should be cleaned, x-rayed and illustrated for the site archive.

The earliest clear evidence for activity on the site is from the medieval period, principally the 12th–14th century, and provides some indication of land use and occupation on the site.

The substantial north–south ditch G1010, located in the western half of the site, is the most significant feature of this period. It has been suggested (Tester, 2008) that the ditch formed part of the boundary on the eastern side

of Hessett's medieval green. This might have been the case, but only if the green contracted in the post-medieval period – the tithe map of 1839 (and all subsequent maps) clearly shows the boundary of the green immediately to the west of Shrubbery Farm (Fig. 15). It is more likely that ditch G1010 was a boundary at the rear of one or more properties (farms or crofts) that fronted on the green. These buildings would have stood in the area occupied by the present Shrubbery Farm, to the west of ditch G1010 and outside the area of excavation.

Although the boundary ditch had medieval origins there is pottery evidence that it remained open into the early post-medieval period, and perhaps later.

It should be noted that a 3m wide shallow, linear depression, about 20m long and on the same alignment as ditch G1010, can be seen in the turf about 30m north of the site, extending into the garden of a neighbouring property.

East–west ditches G1002 and G1003 were broadly contemporary with boundary ditch G1010 but were relatively slight. They both sloped down to the west and it is likely that they drained into ditch G1010. They are interpreted as probable field boundaries / drainage ditches. Ditch G1004 (and perhaps undated ditch G1005) was probably part of the same medieval field system.

The stratigraphic evidence for medieval occupation on the site is limited, and has been described adequately in this assessment report – there is no potential for further analysis or reporting.

The medieval pottery assemblage is small but has some potential for comparison with contemporary assemblages from elsewhere in Suffolk. However, this type of analysis is considered to be beyond the scope of this project.

Evidence for activity on the site in the post-medieval and modern periods is fairly ephemeral or of limited significance and has no potential for further analysis or reporting.

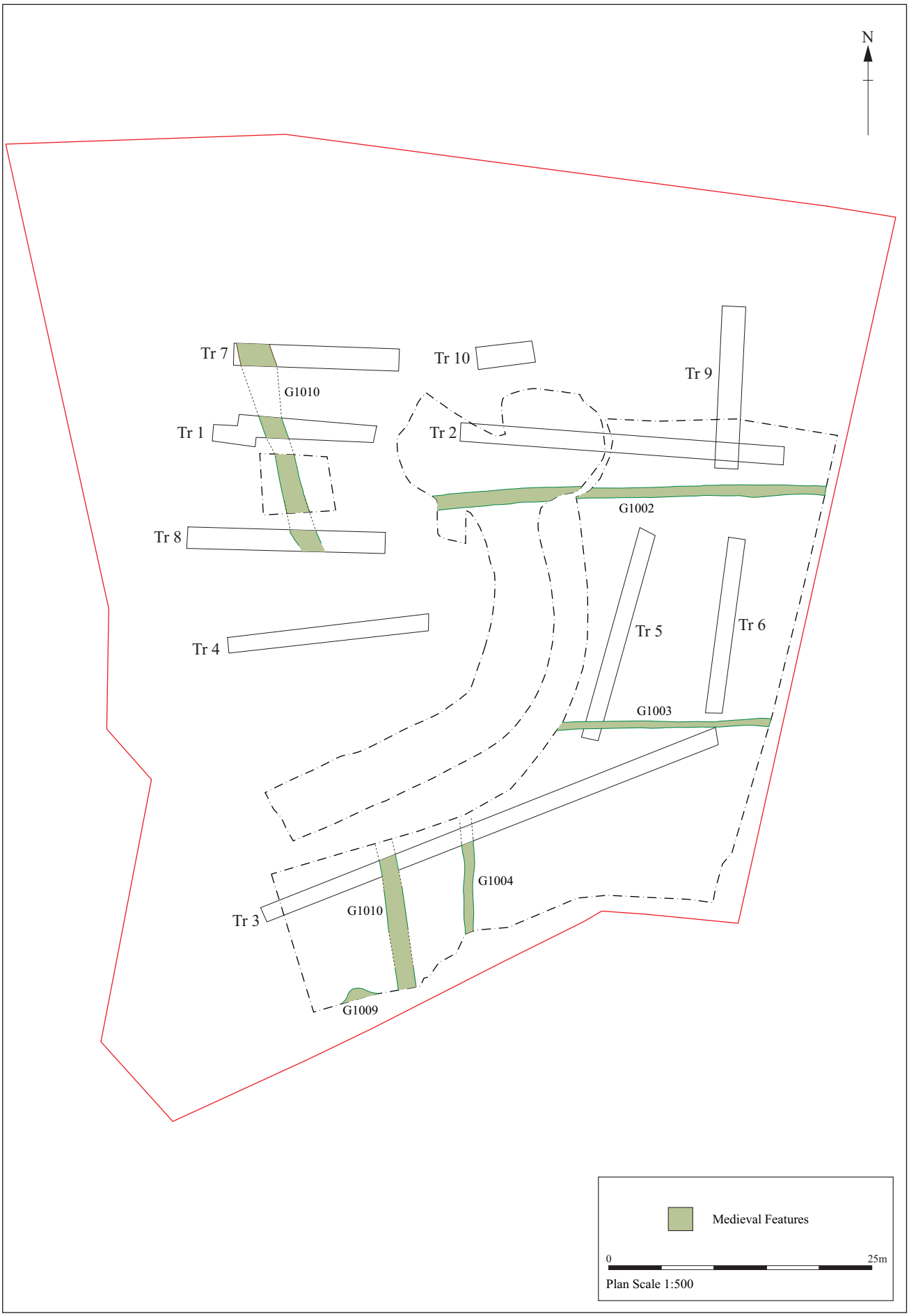

Figure 11. Plan of medieval features

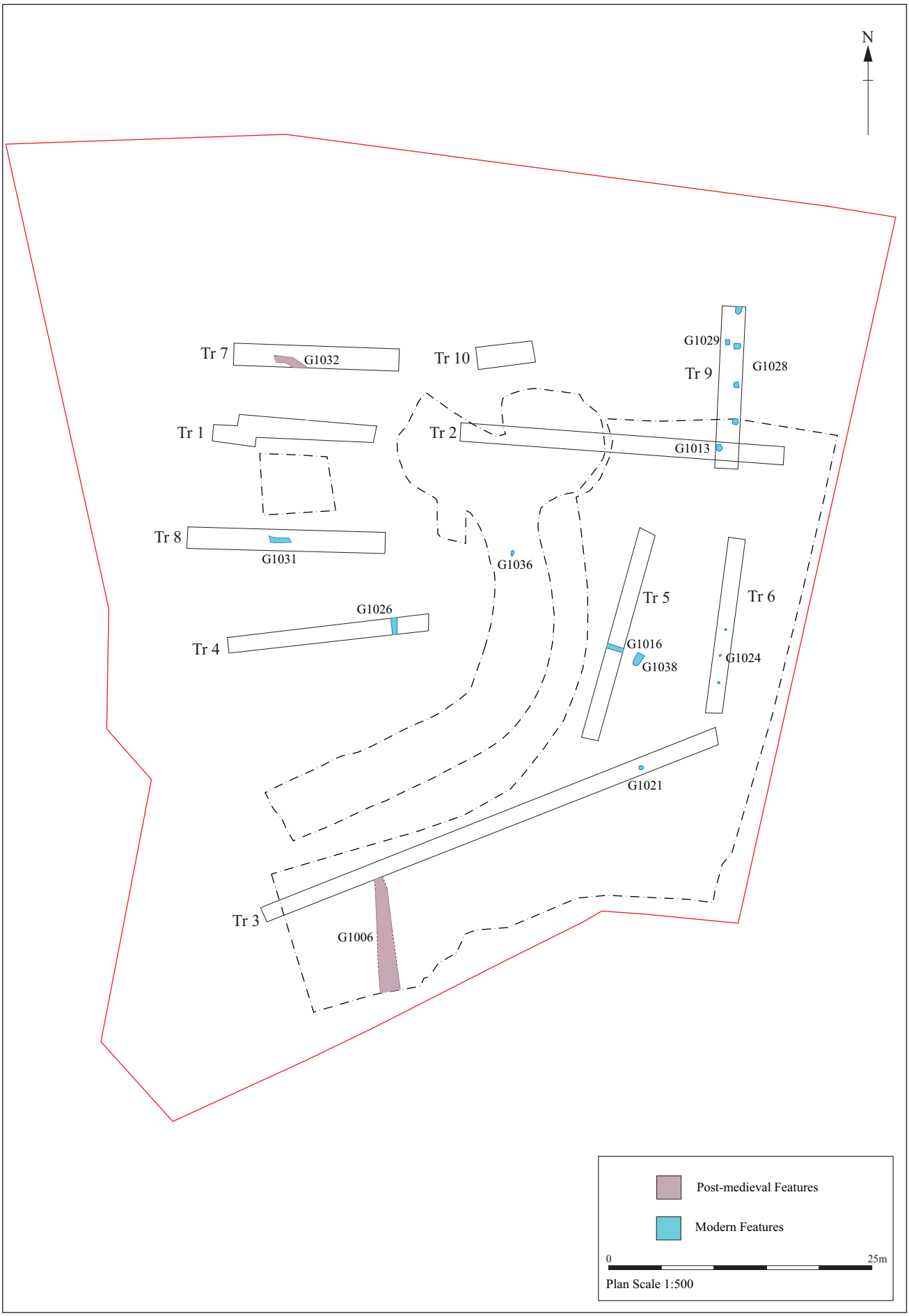

Figure 12. Plan of post-medieval and modern features

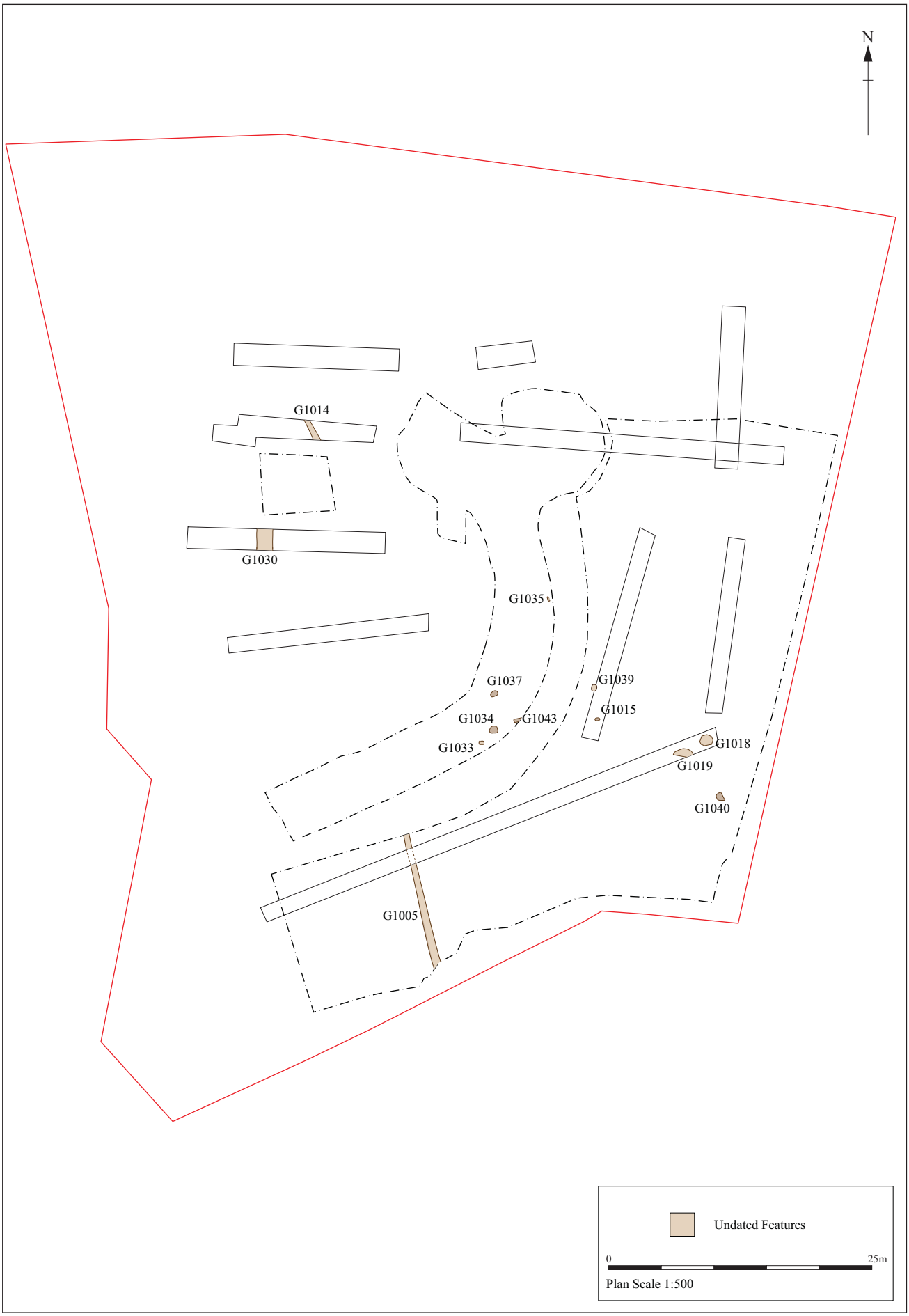

Figure 13. Plan of undated features

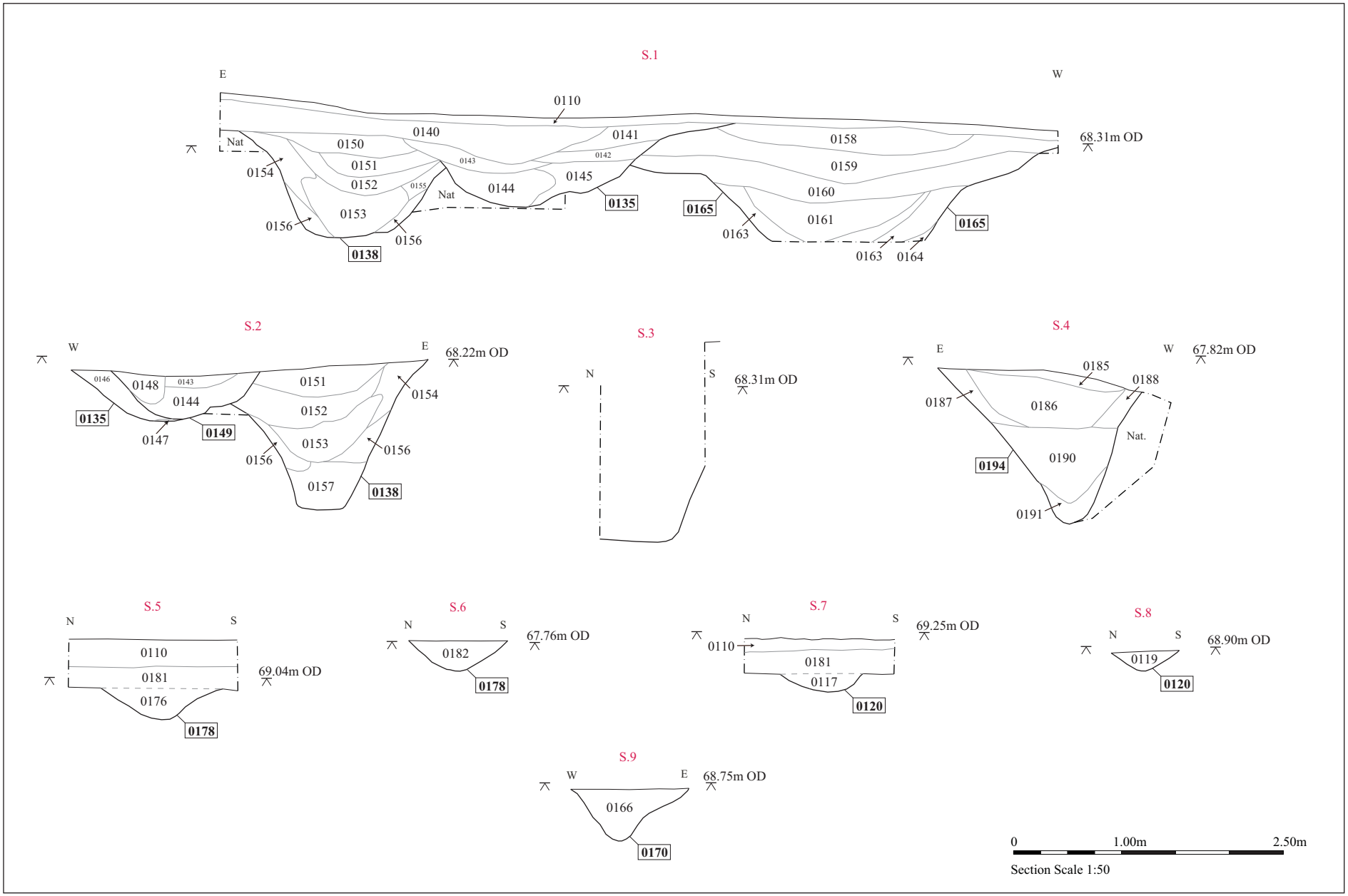

Figure 14. Sections

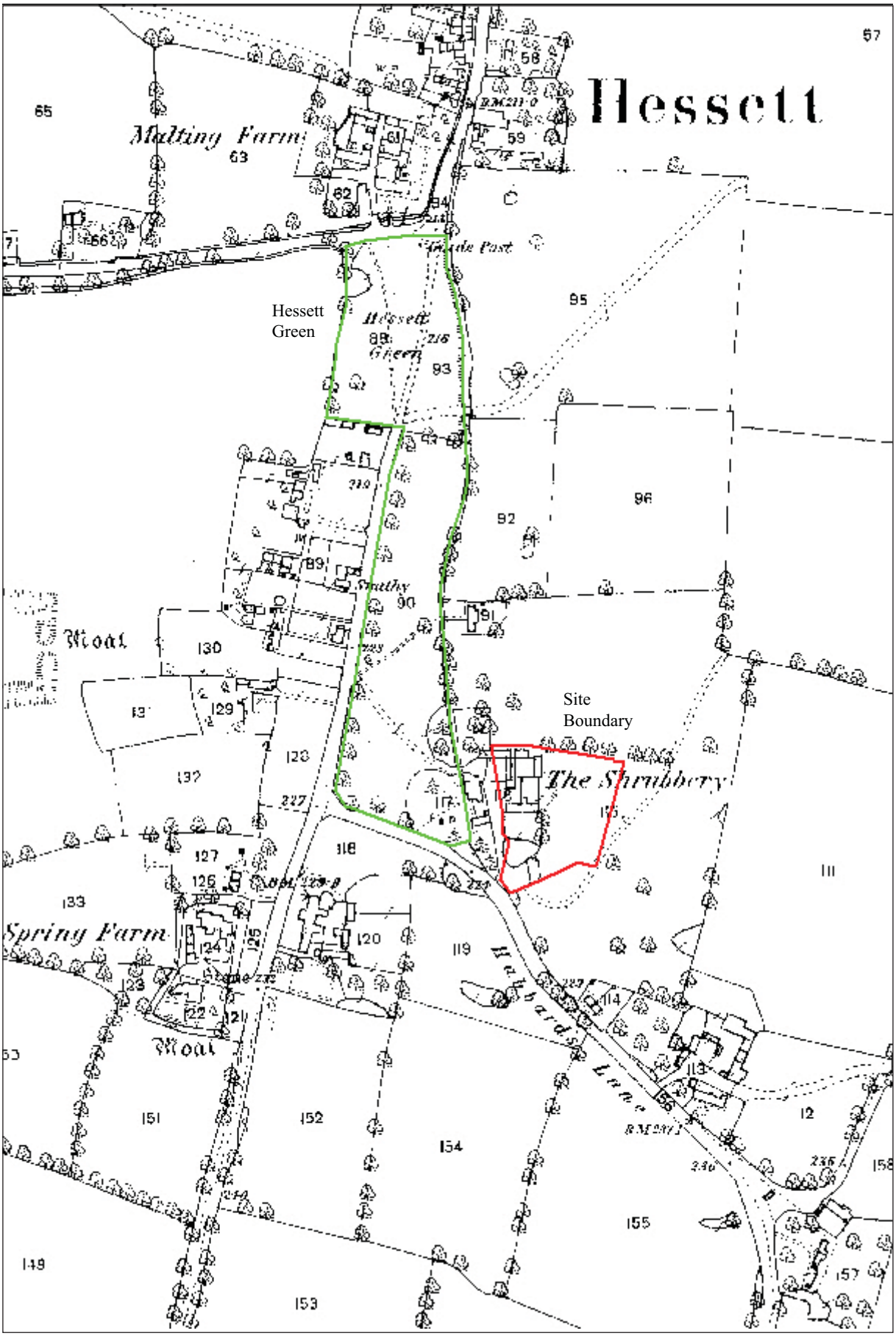

Figure 15. First edition Ordnance Survey map, c. 1884

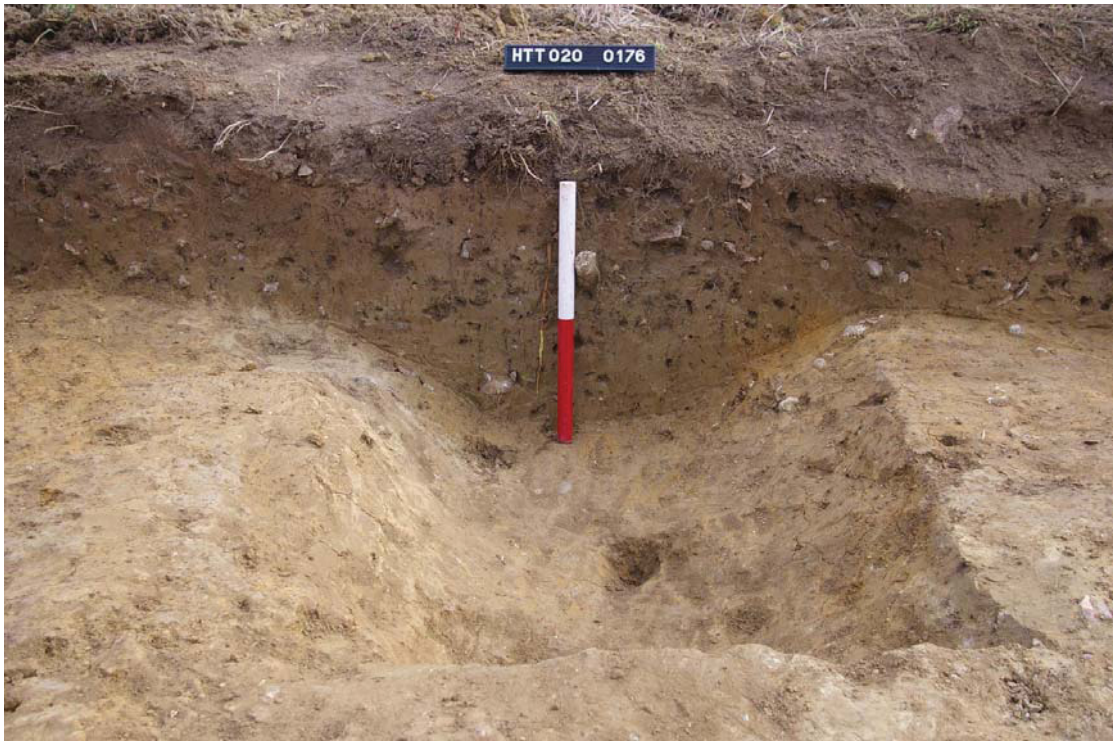

Plate 1. Medieval ditch G1002, looking east (0.5m scale)

Plate 2. Medieval ditch G1003, looking east (0.5m scale)

Plate 3. Medieval ditch G1004, looking north (0.5m scale)

Plate 4. Medieval ditch G1010 (south end), looking north (1m scale)

Plate 5. Medieval ditch G1010 (north end), looking north (1m scale)

Plate 6. Medieval pit G1009, looking southwest (1m scale)

7 Significance of the data

The results of the fieldwork at Shrubbery Farm have some *local significance,* providing limited evidence for medieval land use and presumed occupation of a site adjacent to Hessett Green.

On a regional scale the results may contribute in a very minor way to suggested research topics associated with *rural settlement diversity* and the *characterisation of settlement forms and functions*, as defined in the Regional Research Agenda for the Eastern Counties (Brown and Glazebrook, 2000).

8 Recommendations for further work and publication

Some further work has been recommended for the finds, namely the radiography of the two small finds (an iron key and a copper alloy brooch), and a good quality photograph and an illustration of the brooch, for the site archive.

It has been proposed (6.2) that no further analysis of the site archive is required. Similarly it is proposed that the potential and significance of the archive are not such that additional reporting or publication of the results is required. This post-excavation assessment will be disseminated as a 'grey literature' report *via* OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS), and a summary of the results will be submitted to the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History.

9 Acknowledgements

CgMs Consulting commissioned the fieldwork on behalf of Mr. B. Mitcham, who funded the project.

Robert Carr produced the Brief and Specification for the initial evaluation and Jess Tipper provided the Brief and Specification for subsequent phases of fieldwork (both of SCCAS Conservation Team).

The project was managed by Andrew Tester, who also directed and reported on the first phase of evaluation. Subsequent fieldwork was directed by Mo Muldowney (Evaluation Phase 2 and Excavation Phase 1) and Kieron Heard (Excavation Phase 2). The following staff assisted with the fieldwork: Andy Beverton, William Brooks, Joanna Caruth, Roy Damant, John Duffy, Tony Fisher, David Gill, Steve Manthorpe and Simon Picard, John Sims and Nick Taylor (all SCCAS Field Team).

Surveying was by Andy Beverton, John Duffy and Mo Muldowney. John Duffy and Liz Muldowney digitised the plans (all SCCAS Field Team).

The finds assessment report is by Richenda Goffin (SCCAS Finds Officer). The finds were processed by Gemma Adams and Jonathan Van Jennians (SCCAS Field Team). Specialist advice and identification of the flint assemblage was provided by Colin Pendleton (SCCAS Conservation Team), Mike Feider (SCCAS Field Team) reported on the animal bone and Faye Minter (SCCAS Senior Finds Recording Officer) reported on the ansate brooch.

The environmental samples were processed by Anna West (SCCAS Environmental Officer) and assessed by Val Fryer (freelance specialist).

Graphics are by Gemma Adams and Crane Begg (SCCAS Graphics).

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Appendix 1: Brief and Specification

LAND AT SHRUBBERY FARM, HUBBARDS LANE, HESSETT, 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. The nature of the development and archaeological requirements

1.1 Planning consent (application 1087/05) has been granted by Mid Suffolk District Council for the erection of fourteen dwellings, associated parking and construction of vehicular access on Land at Shrubbery Farm, Hubbards Lane, Hessett, Suffolk (TL 9368 6116) with a PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition requiring an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out.

1.2 The site is located at approximately 70.00 m AOD and measures 0.50 ha. in size. The underlying geology is chalky till with deep loam to clay.

1.3 A trenched evaluation was undertaken by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service/Field Team in April 2008 (HER No. HTT 020; SCCAS Report No. 2008/112, June 2008). The evaluation revealed important archaeological features and finds across the site dating from the medieval period (12th to 14th century), with Late Saxon material indicating earlier occupation on the same site.

1.4 In order to comply with the planning condition, the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (SCCAS/CT) has been requested to provide a brief and specification for the archaeological recording of archaeological deposits that will be affected by development – archaeological mitigation in the form of preservation by record. An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

2. Brief for Archaeological Investigation

2.1 An archaeological excavation, as specified in Section 3, is to be carried out prior to development.

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 the consent. Adequate time is to be allowed for archaeological recording of archaeological deposits during excavation.

2.3 The academic objective will centre upon the potential for this site to produce, in particular, evidence for medieval and possibly earlier occupation, in the form of finds and features.

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 and publication. 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 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 SCCAS/CT (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.

2.6 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; an important aspect of the 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', and 8, 2000, 'Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. research agenda and strategy').

2.7 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 SCCAS/CT before execution.

2.8 The responsibility for identifying any restraints on archaeological 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.

2.9 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 with the commissioning body.

2.10 The developer or his archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT ten 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 is to be agreed in detail before the project commences. Certain minimum criteria will be required:

3.1 Topsoil and subsoil deposits must be removed to the top of the first archaeological level by an appropriate machine with a back-acting arm fitted with a toothless bucket. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist.

3.2 If the machine stripping is to be undertaken by the main contractor, all machinery must keep off the stripped areas until they have been fully excavated and recorded, in accordance with this specification. Full construction work must not begin until excavation has been completed and formally confirmed by SCCAS/CT.

3.3 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of further excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.

3.4 All features which are, or could be interpreted as, structural must be fully excavated. Post-holes and pits must be examined in section and then fully excavated. Fabricated surfaces within the excavation area (e.g. yards and floors) must be fully exposed and cleaned. Any variation from this process can only be made by agreement with SCCAS/CT, and must be confirmed in writing.

3.5 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 be excavated (in some instances 100% may be requested).
b) 10% of the fills of substantial linear features (ditches, etc) are to be excavated (min.). 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. For linear features, 1.00m wide slots (min.) should be excavated across their width.

3.6 Any variation from this process can only be made by agreement [if necessary on site] with a member of SCCAS/CT, and must be confirmed in writing.

3.7 Collect and prepare environmental bulk samples (for flotation and analysis by an environmental specialist). The fills of all archaeological features should be bulk sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains and assessed by an appropriate specialist. The WSI must provide details of a comprehensive sampling strategy for retrieving and processing biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations and also for absolute dating), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. All samples should be retained until their potential has been assessed. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from Rachel Ballantyne, English Heritage Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.

3.8 A finds recovery policy is to be agreed before the project commences. It should be addressed by the WSI. Sieving of occupation levels and building fills will be expected.

3.9 Use of a metal detector will form an essential part of finds recovery. Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.

3.10 All finds will be collected and processed. No discard policy will be considered until the whole body of finds has been evaluated.

3.11 All ceramic, bone and stone artefacts to be cleaned and processed concurrently with the excavation to allow immediate evaluation and input into decision making.

3.12 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 four weeks of excavation.

3.13 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 WSI.

3.14 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. All levels should relate to Ordnance datum. Any variations from this must be agreed with SCCAS/CT.

3.15 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies/high resolution digital images, and documented in a photographic archive.

3.16 Excavation record keeping is to be consistent with the requirements the County Historic Environment Record and compatible with its archive. Methods must be agreed with SCCAS/CT.

4. General Management

4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences.

4.2 Monitoring of the archaeological work will be undertaken by SCCAS/CT. A decision on the monitoring required will be made by SCCAS/CT on submission of the accepted WSI.

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 evaluation there must also be a statement of their responsibilities or a CV for post-excavation work on other archaeological sites and publication record. Ceramic specialists, in particular, must have relevant experience from this region, including knowledge of local ceramic sequences.

4.4 Provision should be included in the WSI for outreach activities, for example, in the form of an open day and/or local public lecture and/or presentation to local schools.

4.5 It is the archaeological contractor’s responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are available to fulfill the Specification.

4.6 A detailed risk assessment and management strategy must be presented for this particular site.

4.7 The WSI must include proposed security measures to protect the site and both excavated and unexcavated finds from vandalism and theft.

4.8 Provision for the reinstatement of the ground and filling of dangerous holes must be detailed in the WSI. However, trenches should not be backfilled without the approval of SCCAS/CT.

4.9 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.

4.10 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this specification are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003. The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (revised 2001) 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 written timetable for post-excavation work must be produced, which must be approved by SCCAS/CT. 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 The project manager must consult the County Historic Environment Record Officer (Dr Colin Pendleton) to obtain a Historic Environment Record number for the work. This number will be unique for the site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.

5.3 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 Historic Environment Record or museum.

5.4 A complete copy of the site record archive must be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record within 12 months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.

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

5.6 The project manager should consult the SCCAS Archive Guidelines 2008 and also the County Historic Environment Record Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive. A clear statement of the form, intended content, and standards of the archive is to be submitted for approval as an essential requirement of the WSI.

5.7 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).

5.8 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with UK Institute Conservators Guidelines.

5.9 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).

5.10 Pottery should be recorded and archived to a standard comparable with 6.3 above, i.e. *The Study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for Analysis and Publication,* Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group Occ Paper 1 (1991, rev 1997), the *Guidelines for the archiving of Roman Pottery*, Study Group Roman Pottery (ed M G Darling 1994) and the *Guidelines of the Medieval Pottery Group* (in draft).

5.11 All coins must be identified and listed as a minimum archive requirement.

5.12 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner/developer to the deposition of the finds with the County Historic Environment Record 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.

5.13 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 SCCAS/CT by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.

5.14 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.

5.15 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.

5.16 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the 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).

6. Report Requirements

6.1 An assessment 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 Provision should be made to assess the potential of scientific dating techniques for establishing the date range of significant artefact or ecofact assemblages, features or structures.

6.6 The results should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the County Historic Environment Record.

6.7 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, 2.5). 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 nor costed in detail until this brief and specification is satisfied. However, the developer should be aware that there is a responsibility to provide a publication of the results of the programme of work.

6.8 The assessment report must be presented within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and SCCAS/CT.

6.9 The involvement of SCCAS/CT should be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

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Date: 2 July 2009 Reference: / ShrubberyFarm_Hessett2009

Appendix 2: Group descriptions

Context numbers in bold type were cut features

G1001: Natural stratum
Contexts: n/a

The natural stratum was a deposit of firm, light yellowish brown clay/silt containing varying amounts of flint and large pockets or veins of clayey sand and crushed chalk. It is interpreted as glacial till, or boulder clay.

G1002: Agricultural ditch and its fills (Medieval; 12–14th century)
*Contexts: **0113**, 0114, **0115**, 0116, 0176, 0177, **0178**, 0179, 0180, 0182, 0183*

East–west ditch 0113/0115/0178 measured >34.50m long x up to 1.26m wide x 0.40m deep, with steep sides and a concave base. It had an uncertain extent to the west and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east. The base of the ditch seemed to slope down gently to the west.

Five sections were dug, each revealing a single fill of compact, light to mid brownish grey clayey silt containing moderate pebbles and occasional to frequent flecks of charcoal. Small fragments of pottery were recovered from fills 0114, 0116 and 0179; 0116 produced occasional bone fragments.

G1003: Agricultural ditch and its fills (Medieval; Late 12–14th century)
*Contexts: **0013**, 0014, 0117, 0118, 0119, **0120**, 0121, 0122, 0123*

East–west ditch 0013/0104/0120 measured >20.0m long x up to 0.75m wide x 0.18m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It had an uncertain extent to the west and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east. The base of the ditch seems to slope down gently to the west.

Four sections were dug, each revealing a single fill of (mostly) compact, mid greyish brown clayey silt containing occasional pebbles and small fragments of pottery.

G1004: Agricultural ditch and its fills (Early medieval; 11–12th century)
*Contexts: 0166, 0167, 0168, 0169, **0170***

North–south ditch 0170 measured >9m long x up to 1.10m wide x up to 0.47m deep, with moderately steep sides and a concave base. It extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south and has an unknown extent to the north.

Two sections were dug, each revealing a single fill of compact, greyish brown silty clay containing occasional to frequent charcoal flecks, and occasional pebbles, small fragments pottery and bone.

G1005: Agricultural ditch and its fills (Undated; x1 sherd medieval pot)
*Contexts: 0171, 0172, **0173**, 0174, 0175*

North–south ditch 0173 measured >13.50m long x up to 0.75m wide x 0.26m deep, with moderately steep sides and a concave base. It extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south and had an unknown extent to the north.

Two sections were dug, each revealing a single fill of compact, mid brown silty clay containing occasional pebbles and small fragments of charcoal. Fill 0175 contained a single medium-sized fragment of pottery and fill 0171 produced occasional small fragments of bone.

G1006: Agricultural/boundary ditch and its fills (Post-med; 19th century)
*Contexts: 0132, 0133, 0134, **0135**, 0141, 0142, 0143, 0144, 0145, 0146, 0147*

North–south ditch 0135 measured >10m long x up to 3.10m wide x up to 0.80m deep, with moderately steep (but irregular) sides and a concave base. It extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south and had an unknown extent to the north; it seems likely that it was recorded in evaluation trench 3 as modern disturbance. Ditch 0135 ran parallel to, and had truncated the western edge of, ditch 0138.

Two sections were dug, each revealing sequences of distinct fills that suggest infilling of the ditch over a prolonged period. The fills are variously coloured deposits of compact, clayey silt containing occasional to moderate pebbles and small quantities of cultural material. The latter includes pottery, ceramic building material, slate, fragments of probable drain pipe, animal bone, oyster and mussel shells. The finds suggest a post-medieval date for the infilling of the ditch.

G1007: Modern pipe trench
*Context: **0131***

North-south trench 0131 measured >14m long x 0.90m wide x 1.10m deep, with vertical sides and a concave base. It contained a large-diameter ceramic drain pipe. The pipe trench had partially removed the eastern edge of ditch 0138 (G1010).

G1008: Modern posthole
*Contexts: 0148, **0149***

0149 was a small posthole containing a humic fill that included fragments of obviously modern brick and tile (not retained).

G1009: Pit and its fills (Medieval; Late 12–14th century)
Contexts: 0158, 0159, 0160, 0161, 0162, 0163, 0164, **0165**

0165 was a large, probably sub-circular pit measuring >4m east–west x >1m north–south x >1.06m deep. The pit extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south, so its full extent is not known. It had moderately steep (but

slightly irregular) sides and its base was not seen. The eastern edge of the pit had been removed partially by ditch 0135 (G1006).

The pit contained a sequence of fills, mostly of grey clayey silt or brown clayey sand that seemed to represent gradual accumulation rather than deliberate backfilling of the pit. One of the fills (0163) appeared to have derived from the slumping of the sides of the pit. Cultural material was recovered from fill 0160 only, which contained occasional small to medium fragments of pottery and small fragments of charcoal.

The function of the pit is unknown.

G1010: Boundary ditch and its fills (Medieval: Late 12–14th century)
*Contexts: **0004**, 0005, 0006, 0007, **0035**, 0036, **0061**, 0062, 0063, 0064, 0065, 0066, 0136, 0137, **0138**, 0150, 0151, 0152, 0153, 0154, 0155, 0156, 0157, 0184, 0186, 0187, 0188, 0189, 0190, 0191, 0192, 0193, **0194***

0004/0061/0138/0194 was a substantial, north–south ditch. It was sectioned at six locations and identified (though not excavated) at one other location. It could be traced over a distance of 63.5m, extending beyond the limits of excavation to north and south. There was evidence to suggest that the ditch terminated just beyond the southern limit of excavation, although this could not be confirmed by excavation. It had a maximum recorded width of 3.5m and an average depth of 1.4m, with steep (though irregular) sides and a narrow, concave base.

All excavated sections revealed sequences of fills that seem to indicate gradual silting up of the ditch, rather that deliberate backfilling. Fills are mostly clayey silts, although some sandier deposits lying against the sides of the ditch were thought to indicate slumping of its sides.

Environmental samples were taken from some of the lower fills of the ditch:

<1> fill 0005
<2> fill 0064
<3> fill 0063
<5> fill 0157
<6> fill 0190

Only small quantities of finds were recovered. Occasional, small to medium fragments of pottery were recovered from fills 0036, 0064, 0151, 0153, 0186, 0187 and 0190. Other finds include occasional small fragments of animal bone, CBM, oyster and mussel shells. Two notable finds from fill 0153 are a fragment of quern stone and a small iron key.

The function of the ditch is uncertain. Originally it was interpreted as part of the boundary ditch on the eastern side of Hessett's medieval green. Subsequently it has been interpreted as a boundary separating a medieval precursor of the present-day Shrubbery Farm (which fronts on the 'green ditch' to the west) from agricultural land to the east.

G1011: Modern dumping (Post-medieval: 19th century)
Contexts: 0140

0140 was a layer of compact, dark grey sandy loam, up to 0.34m thick, that overlay and had slumped into ditches 0135 (G1006) and 0138 (G1010). The layer contained moderate small to large fragments of relatively modern roof tile, and occasional fragments of chalk, slate and oyster shell. It was interpreted as a levelling layer, and was sealed by modern topsoil 0110 (G1041).

G1012: Modern mole drains
*Contexts: **0002, 0003***

Two parallel narrow, linear cuts filled with dark brown silt (in Trench 1) were interpreted as agricultural mole drains.

G1013: Posthole (Modern)
*Contexts: **0008**, 0009, 0010*

0008 was a sub-square posthole in Trench 2. The post pipe 0010 contained a fragment of modern brick.

G1014: Linear cut and its fill (Undated)
*Contexts: **0011**, 0012*

North–south linear cut 0011 (in Trench 1) measured >2m long x 0.60m wide x 0.22m deep, with moderately steep sides and a flat base. Its fill 0012 was grey silt containing occasional animal bone and small fragments of fired clay. The date and function of this feature are unknown.

G1015: Pit and its fill (Undated)
*Contexts: **0015**, 0016*

Pit 0015 (in Trench 6) was oval, measuring 0.50 x 0.37 x 0.14m deep with a bowl-shaped profile. Its fill 0016 was soft, brown, humic silt containing much animal bone, mostly pig bones that are possibly from the same animal but disarticulated. The humic nature of the fill suggested that the pit was of relatively recent date.

G1016: Structural cut and its fill (Modern)
*Contexts: **0017**, 0018*

East-west linear cut 0017 (in Trench 6) measured >1.75m long x 0.35m wide x 0.25m deep, with very steep sides and a flat base. Its fill 0018 was soft, grey, humic silt that produced a prehistoric flint scraper. However, the nature of the fill suggested that the feature is of relatively recent date. Furthermore, its position corresponded with the north wall of a small farm building shown on the 1978 Ordnance Survey map. It could not be traced beyond the confines of Trench 6 during subsequent open-area excavation.

G1017: Linear cut and its fill (probable natural channel)
*Contexts: **0019**, 0020*

East–west linear cut 0019 (in Trench 6) measured >1.75m long x 0.60m wide x 0.16m deep, with moderately steep sides and a concave base. Its fill 0020 was orangey grey sandy silt, devoid of finds. Since this feature could not be traced beyond the confines of Trench 6 during subsequent open-area excavation it is likely to have been of natural origin, possibly a small run-off channel.

G1018: Pit and its fill (Undated)
*Contexts: **0022**, 0023*

Pit 0022 (in Trench 3) was sub circular, measuring 0.80m wide x 0.20m deep with a shallow, bowl-shaped profile. Its fill 0023 was dense grey silt with occasional animal bone but no cultural material. The date and function of the pit are unknown.

G1019: Pit and its fills (Undated)
*Contexts: **0024**, 0025, 0026*

Pit 0024 (in Trench 3) was sub circular, measuring 1.40m wide x 0.40m deep with steep but irregular sides and a sloping base. It contained two fills: 0026 was a dark, possibly organic fill with charcoal lenses that lay against the sides of the pit. The main fill, 0025, was dense, grey silt with moderate pebbles but no cultural material. The date and function of the pit are unknown.

G1020: Plough disturbance (Modern)
*Contexts: **0027**, 0028, **0031**, **0033**, 0034*

Three, narrow and irregular cuts in Trench 3 were interpreted as modern plough marks.

G1021: Pit and its fill (Modern)
*Contexts: **0029**, 0030*

Pit 0029 (in Trench 3) was circular, measuring 0.46m wide x 0.16m deep with a bowl-shaped profile. Its fill 0030 was dark greyish brown silty loam, devoid of finds. The nature of this deposit suggests that the pit was of relatively recent date.

G1022: Plough disturbance (Modern)
Context: 0032

Deposit 0032 filled a shallow depression in the natural stratum in Trench 3. It was brown silt (similar to the modern topsoil) up to 0.12m thick, and contained one fragment of medieval pottery and occasional animal bone. Despite the pottery, this deposit was interpreted as the result of modern plough

disturbance. It could not be traced beyond the confines of Trench 3 during subsequent open-area excavation.

G1023: Unstratified finds (Medieval; mid 13–14th century)
Context: 0037

49 sherds of pottery were recovered from the "base of the topsoil" in the area of Trenches 2, 3, 5 and 6. These are mostly of medieval date but include some Late Saxon material. Although the provenance is imprecise it seems likely that these fragments were in the subsoil (0181: G1041) rather than modern topsoil (0110; G1042) since these deposits were not differentiated during evaluation phase 1.

G1024: Three postholes (Modern)
*Contexts: **0038**, 0039, **0040**, 0041, **0042**, 0043*

A north–south line of three postholes in Trench 5 were clearly of recent date. They were sub circular, 0.22m wide x 0.30m deep, and were filled with brown, humic silt.

G1025: Linear cut and its fill (probable natural channel)
*Contexts: **0044**, 0045*

Southeast–northwest linear cut 0044 (in Trench 5) measured >2.50m long x 0.60m wide x 0.15m deep, with moderately steep sides and a concave base. Its fill 0045 was orangey grey silty clay, devoid of finds. Since this feature could not be identified beyond the confines of Trench 5 during subsequent open-area excavation it is likely to have been of natural origin, possibly a small run-off channel.

G1026: Structural cut and its fill (Modern)
*Contexts: **0046**, 0047*

North–south linear cut 0046 (in Trench 4) measured >1.75m long x 0.42m wide x 0.22m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base. It was filled with grey, iron-panned clay. The feature was located below the eastern wall of a former farm building and is assumed to have been associated with the construction of that building.

G1027: Linear cut and its fill (probable natural channel)
*Contexts: **0048**, 0049*

Southeast–northwest linear cut 0048 (in Trench 9) measured >3.0m long x 0.50m wide x 0.16m deep, with moderately steep sides and a concave base. Its fill 0049 was mid yellowish grey silty clay, devoid of finds. Since this feature could not be traced beyond the confines of Trench 9 during subsequent open-area excavation it is likely to have been of natural origin, possibly a small run-off channel.

G1028: Four postholes (Modern)

*Contexts: 0050**, 0051***

Posthole 0051 (in Trench 9) was sub-circular, measuring 0.56m wide x 0.14m deep with a post pipe 0.30m in diameter. The post packing 0050 was friable, yellow and yellowish grey clay and silty clay containing occasional pebbles, coal and slate. This was one of a north–south line of four modern postholes (the others not numbered), one of which still contained part of a timber post.

G1029: Animal burial (Modern)
*Contexts: 0052, **0053***

Pit 0053 (Trench 9) was sub square, measuring 0.45m wide x 30mm deep. It contained the articulated partial skeleton of a chicken, and is assumed to have been of relatively recent date.

G1030: Ditch and its fill (Undated; x1 sherd medieval pottery)
*Contexts: **0054**, 0055*

North–south ditch 0054 (in Trench 8) measured >2m long x 1.26m wide x 0.50m deep, with moderately steep sides and a flat base. Its fill 0055 was compact, mid greyish brown silty clay containing occasional pottery and pebbles. The extent of the ditch is not known; it might have extended as far south as Trench 4, where an unexcavated feature was identified on the same alignment. It was not identified to the north of Trench 8.

G1031: Structural cut and its fill (Modern)
*Contexts: **0056**, 0057*

East–west linear cut 0056 (Trench 8) measured >1.50m long x 0.50m wide x 0.13m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled with compact, dark greyish brown silty clay. The feature was located below the wall of a former farm building and is assumed to have been associated with the construction of that building. It partially truncated ditch G1030.

G1032: Ditch and its fills (Post-medieval)
*Contexts: 0058, 0059, **0060***

Curvilinear ditch 0060 (in Trench 7) measured >3m long x 0.80m wide x 0.46m deep, with an irregular U-shaped profile. Lower fill 0059 was friable, mid brownish orange silty sand with occasional pebbles and small fragments of chalk. Upper fill 0058 was compact, mid reddish grey silty clay with frequent pebbles and a small fragment of post-medieval CBM. The full extent of the ditch is unknown, as it was not indentified beyond the confines of Trench 7.

G1033: Pit and its fill (Undated)
*Contexts: **0100**, 0101*
Pit 0100 was sub rectangular, measuring 0.45m x 0.30m x only 50mm deep. Its fill 0101 was compact, mid orangey brown silty clay containing occasional animal bone. The date and function of the pit are unknown.

G1034: Pit and its fill (Undated)
*Contexts: **0102**, 0103*

Pit 0102 was sub oval, measuring 0.80m wide x 0.10m deep with a saucer-shaped profile. Its fill 0103 was compact, mid orangey brown silty clay containing occasional pebbles but no cultural material. The date and function of the pit are unknown.

G1035: Pit and its fill (Undated)
*Contexts: **0106**, 0107*

Pit 0106 was oval, measuring 0.40m x 0.25m x 90mm deep with steep sides and a flat base. Its fill 0107 was compact, mid yellowish brown silty clay containing occasional pebbles but no cultural material. The date and function of the pit are unknown.

G1036: Animal burial (Modern)
*Contexts: **0108**, 0109*

Cut 0108 was oval, measuring 0.40m x 0.20m x 30mm deep. It contained the articulated partial skeleton of a cat, and is assumed to have been of relatively recent date.

G1037: Pit and its fill (Undated)
*Contexts: 0111, **0112***

Pit 0112 was sub circular, measuring 0.45m wide x 0.11m deep with a bowl-shaped profile. Its fill 0111 was compact, mid yellowish grey silty clay containing occasional pebbles, charcoal and chalk fragments but no cultural material. The date and function of the pit are unknown.

G1038: Animal burial (Modern)
*Contexts: 0124, **0125***

Pit 0125 was an irregular oval measuring 1.25m long x 0.76m wide x 0.25m deep, with vertical edges to the north and gently-sloping sides to the south. Its fill 0124 was friable, mid greyish brown clayey silt (similar to the modern ploughsoil) containing frequent bones, all pig bones and probably from the same animal. The site records do not indicate if the bones were articulated, although this seems likely.

G1039: Pit and its fill (Undated)
*Contexts: 0126, **0127***

Pit 0127 was circular, measuring 0.6m wide x 0.14m deep with a bowl-shaped profile. Its fill 0126 was friable, mid brownish grey clayey silt containing occasional pebbles and a possible flint flake. Despite the presence of a prehistoric worked flint, the pit is thought to have been of relatively recent date. Its function is unknown.

G1040: Pit and its fill (Undated)
*Contexts: 0128, **0129***

Pit 0129 was oval, measuring >0.85m long x 0.75m wide x 0.45m deep with near-vertical sides breaking sharply into a flat base. Its fill 0128 was friable, mid brownish grey clayey silt containing frequent charcoal flecks, and occasional pebbles, small fragments of fired clay and bone, and two prehistoric worked flints. The function of the pit is unknown.

G1041: Subsoil/former ploughsoil (Medieval / Post-medieval)
Contexts: 0021, 0181, 0185

0181 was a layer of compact, mid brown loam containing occasional pebbles. It was approximately 0.25m thick and extended site-wide, except where removed by recent intrusions. It was removed by machine in order to expose the underlying natural stratum, this being the level at which archaeological features could be identified. The subsoil sealed all of the medieval features, but its relationship with other features could not always be determined.

0021 was a localised deposit of subsoil filling a slight hollow in the underlying natural stratum (G1001). It produced one sherd of medieval pottery.

0185 was a localised deposit of subsoil that has slumped into ditch 0194 (G1010).

G1042: Current topsoil (Modern)
Contexts: 0110

0110 was friable, mid brownish grey loam, up to 0.25m thick and extending site-wide except where removed by modern intrusions or truncation associated with the current redevelopment of the site.

G1043: Cut feature and its fill (Undated)
Contexts: **0104**, 0105

Cut 0104 was probably linear, having a rounded terminus to the west and extending beyond the limit of excavation to the east. It measured 0.80m long x 0.32m wide x 80mm deep, with moderately steep sides and an uneven base. Fill 0105, at the terminus of the ditch, produced a small quantity of animal bone.

Appendix 3: Bulk Finds Catalogue

Context	Pottery No	Pottery Wt	Ceramic Period	CBM No	CBM Wt	Fired clay No	Fired clay Wt	Stone No	Stone Wt	W flint No	W flint Wt	Animal bone No	Animal bone Wt	Shell No	Shell Wt	Miscellaneous	Overall date
0001	7	57	MED/PM														Unstratified
0003				2	43												Post-med
0005						1	2	1	11								?Med
0010				1	1062												18th-19th C
0012						7	3					1	1				Undated
0014	1	22															L12th-14th
0016												51	77				Undated
0018										1	21						Residual
0021	1	12	MED														13th-14th
0023												3	67				Undated
0032	1	4	MED									6	65				12th-E13th
0036	5	132	MED	1	207												PM CBM
0037	49	262	MED														M13th-14th
0052												138	38				Undated
0055	1	5	MED														L12th-14th
0058				1	13					1	7						Post-med
0064	19	104	MED									1	2				Med
0101												10	4				Undated
0105												5	1				Undated
0109												93	74				Undated
0114	3	45	MED							1	155						L12th-14th
0116	16	85	MED	2	3							1	33				?Post-med
0117	3	2	MED														L12th-14th
0118	3	1	MED														L12th-14th
0119	1	4	MED														L12th-14th
0124				1	6					1	18	71	330				Post-med?
0126										1	2						Undated
0128						9	5			2	19	4	8				Undated
0132	4	27	MED/PM	1	22	4	7							1	28	oyster x1	Post-med
0140				9	1040			1	14							slate x1	17th C+
0143	1	10	MED	2	194			1	15							slate x1	Post-med
0144				5	269												17th C+
0147	4	18	MED/PM									3	56				15th-16th
0151	7	44	MED/PM														15th-16th
0153	6	191	MED									3	18			lavastone	L12th-14th
0160	6	65	MED														L12th-14th
0166	2	11	MED									1	3				11th-12th
0168	1	4	MED														11th-12th
0171												40	22				Undated
0175	1	16	MED														L12th-13th
0179	1	2	MED														11th-12th ?
0186	8	12	MED									3	34				11th-13th
0187	1	7	MED														L12th-14th
0190	1	13	MED														L12th-14th
0195	2	18	MED														L12th-14th