

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND EVALUATION REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2011/04

**Brick Kiln Farm, Hemingstone
HMG 027**

HER Information

Planning Application:	0760/06/FUL
Date of Fieldwork:	January 2011
Grid Reference:	TM 1374 5295
Funding Body:	Yaxley Hall Ltd.
Curatorial Officer:	Jess Tipper
Project Officer:	Linzi Everett
OASIS ID:	suffolkc1- 92829

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Summary

An archaeological investigation consisting of fieldwalking and metal detecting survey, followed by evaluation by trial trench was carried out on land at Brick Kiln Farm, Hemingstone (TM 1374 5295; HMG 027) in advance of a proposal to develop the site. No pre-modern evidence was recovered during the two walkover surveys but archaeological deposits were identified during the evaluation. Trench 1 in the northern part of the main field contained features of early medieval date, including a cluster of post-holes likely to form a part of a building of some kind. The finds associated with these features were of a domestic nature, implying occupation either on or very close to the site during the 11th-12th century.

1. Introduction

A planning application was made for holiday lodges, landscaping and associated access on land at Brick Kiln Farm, Hemingstone. The site is centred on TM 1374 5295 and comprises a total of approximately 0.5 hectares.

The site lies within an area of archaeological activity, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record (HER). It was felt therefore that the development work would cause ground disturbance with the potential to destroy archaeological deposits, were they present. As such, there was an initial requirement for an archaeological evaluation by trial trench, as outlined in a Brief and Specification produced by Jess Tipper of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) Conservation Team (Appendix II). The SCCAS Field Team was subsequently commissioned to carry out the work which was funded by Yaxley Hall Ltd..

2. Geology and topography

The site lies at approximately 36m OD, towards the base of a gentle east to west slope. The drift geology underlying the site is chalky till with deep loam to clay.

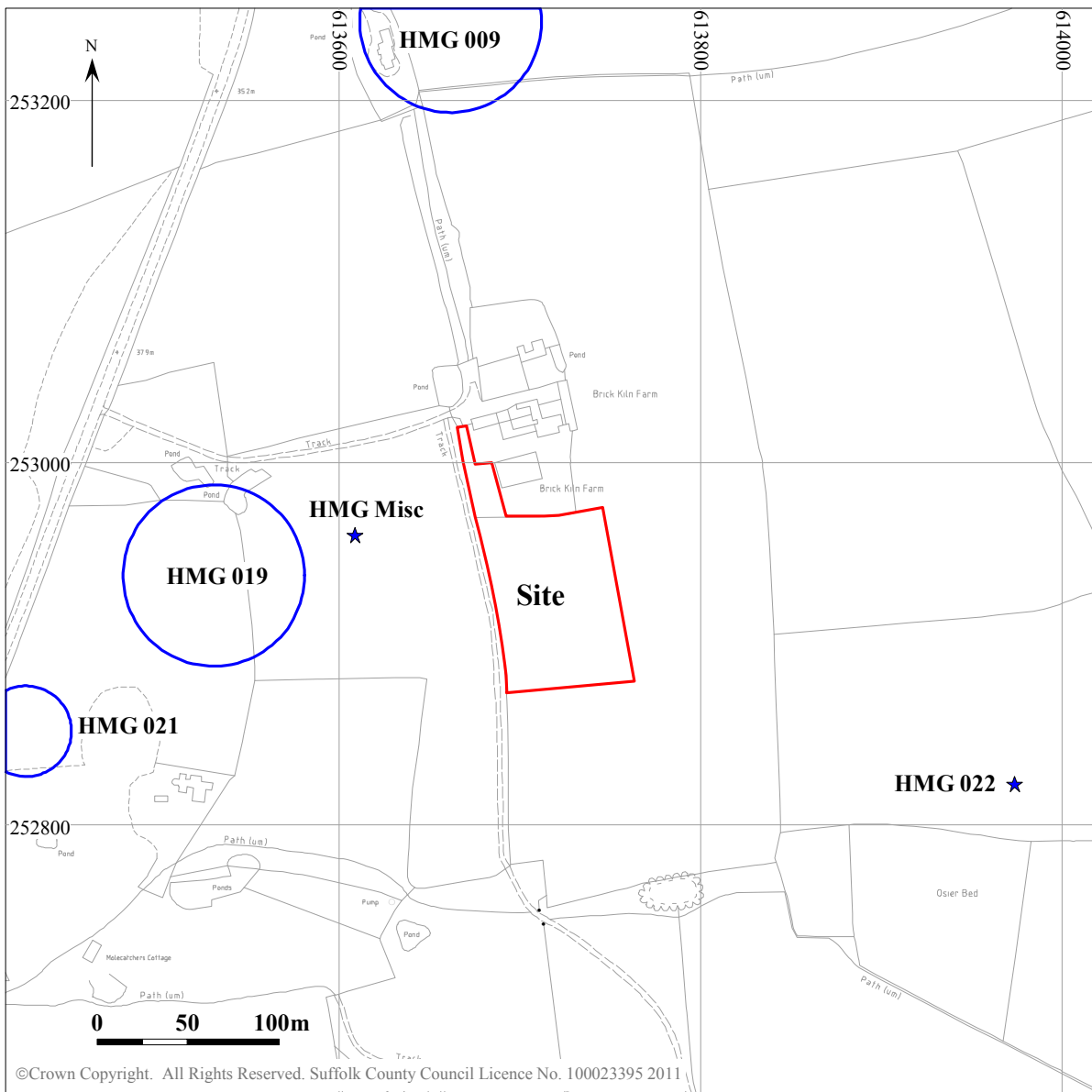
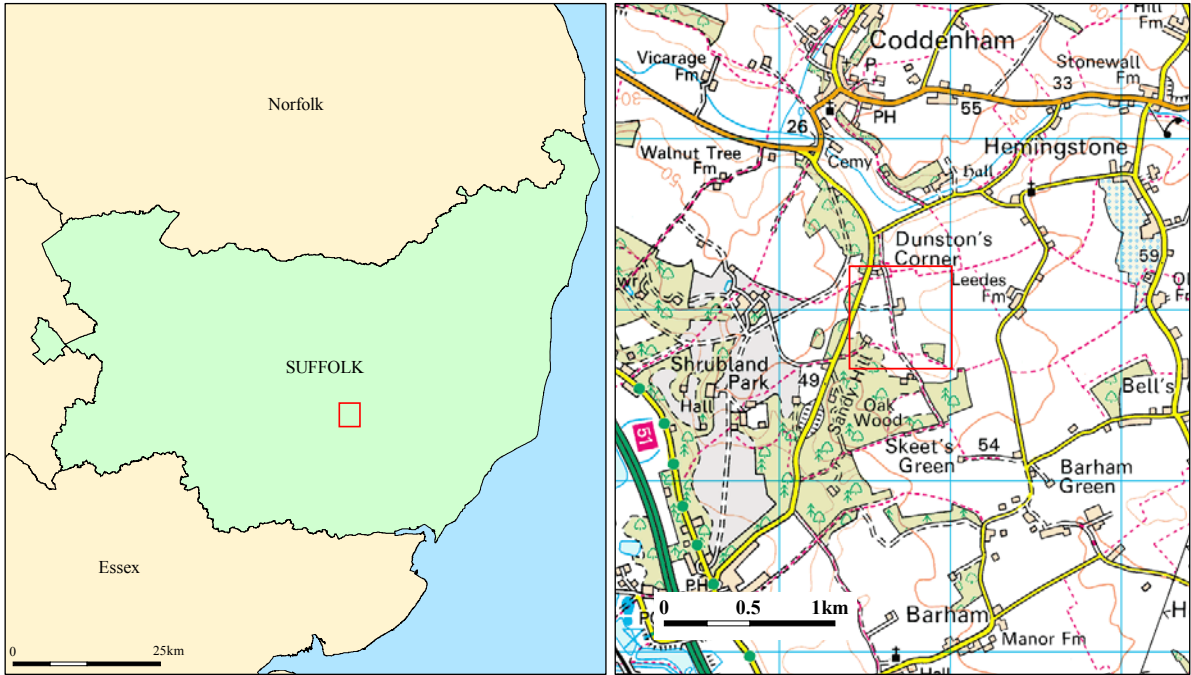


Figure 1. Site location, including HER information

3. Archaeological and historical background

The site lies in an area of high archaeological importance recorded in the County HER. Known Roman and Anglo-Saxon finds are recorded within 100m of the proposed development (HMG 019, 021; HMG Misc; Fig. 1), with finds from the latter period suggestive of a cemetery site. Roman metalwork has also been found slightly further from the site to the north and south-east (HMG 022; HMG 009; Fig. 1). There is a strong possibility that further archaeological deposits will be encountered at this location. Any groundworks causing significant ground disturbance have the potential to damage any archaeological deposits that exist.

4. Methodology

Metal detecting and fieldwalking

These non-intrusive surveys were carried out on 11th January 2011. The field was divided into five north-south transects set c.10m apart and systematically walked, first looking for artefacts on the exposed surface and then using the metal detector (Fig. 2).

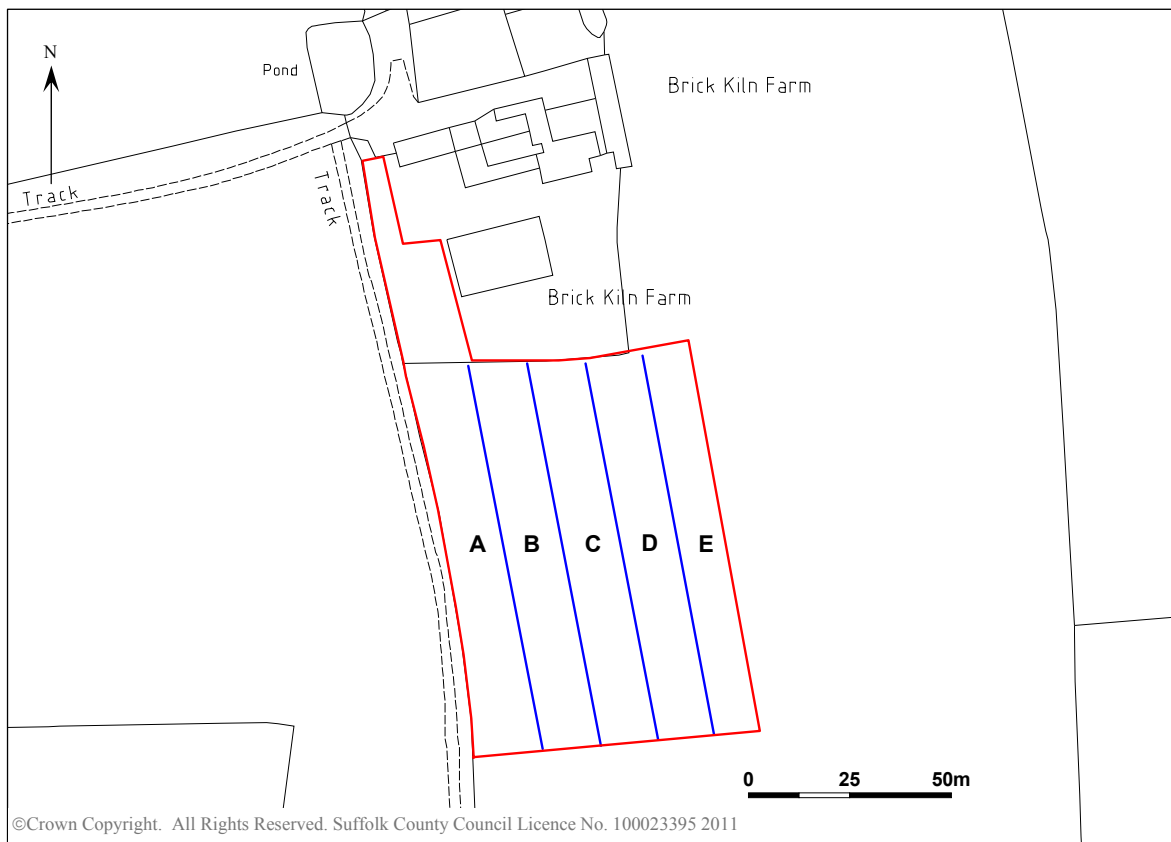


Figure 2. Plan of the fieldwalking/metal detector survey transects

Evaluation

Trial trenching started on 13th January 2011. Five trenches were excavated under the supervision of an archaeologist, using a tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.5m wide toothless ditching bucket, removing overburden until the top of the first undisturbed archaeological deposit or natural subsoil was revealed. Hand cleaning of the exposed surfaces was carried out where necessary in order to clarify the nature of the deposits and identify cut features. Both the exposed trench surfaces and upcast spoil were examined visually for artefactual evidence, and both were subject to a metal detector survey.

Identified contexts were allocated numbers within a unique continuous numbering system under the HER code HMG 027 (Appendix I). Context information was recorded on SCCAS 'pro-forma' recording sheets.

A photographic record was made throughout. The evaluation archive will be deposited in the County HER at Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds.

5. Results

Metal detecting and fieldwalking

The field had been ploughed and harrowed prior to the fieldwalking and metal detecting but there had been little opportunity for the field surface to settle and weather, meaning that conditions for the surveys were not ideal. However, heavy rain had washed the exposed topsoil, making surface artefacts visible.

A number of positive metal detector signals were investigated but all of these were modern artefacts such as cartridge cases, air gun pellets and nails. None of these were recorded.

During the fieldwalking, no pre-modern finds were collected and obviously modern finds (glazed china, terracotta flower pot sherds etc.) were extremely infrequent.

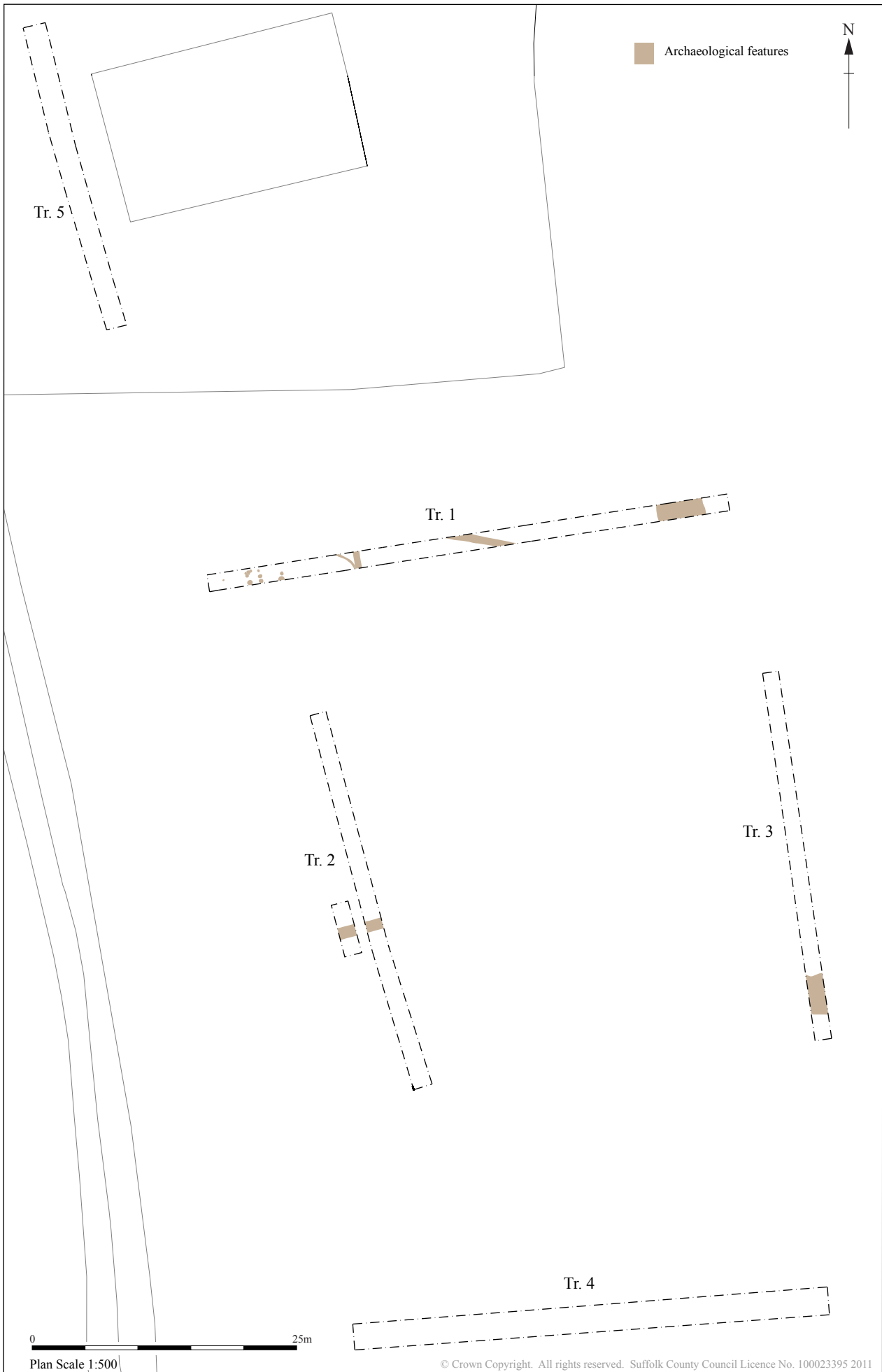


Figure 3. Trench plan

Evaluation

Five trenches were opened within the development area, the dimensions of which were as follows.

	Length (m)	Area (sq. m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
Trench 1	48.75	78	1.6	0.4
Trench 2	35.5	56.8	1.6	0.45
Trench 3	35	56	1.6	0.4
Trench 4	45	72	1.6	0.4
Trench 5	22	35.2	1.6	0.9

Table 1. Trench dimensions

Figure 3 shows the location of the excavated trenches within the development area. More detailed plans of the features within the trenches and drawn sections are shown in Figures 4 - 8. Heavy rain before and during the evaluation made conditions for trenching and excavation of exposed features extremely difficult.

Trench 1

In the western end of Trench 1, ten post-holes were identified, set in three approximately parallel, equally spaced rows (0003; 0005; 0007; 0009; 0011; 0013; 0015; 0017; 0023; 0025- component number 0037). These were all of similar form, showing a relatively shallow, open 'U' shaped profile, with a diameter of between 0.3m and 0.6m. In each case, the fill was a mid-pale brown silty clay with regular small stones and charcoal flecks. Eight of the post-holes produced finds of 11th-12th century date.

0029 was a small, circular feature to the west of post-hole group 0037. It measured 0.16m in diameter and 0.08m deep. This feature may be a small stake-hole or base of a truncated post-hole; only 0.25m over topsoil and subsoil sealed this feature so ploughing may have affected its survival. 0029 was filled by 0030, a mid greyish brown silty clay with very occasional small rounded flint pebbles and daub flecks, from which one pot sherd was recovered. An environmental sample of this fill was taken.

0031 was a north-south aligned ditch with quite steep sloping sides breaking gradually to a concave base, and measured 0.6m wide and 0.46m deep. It was filled by 0032, a dark brownish grey silty clay with occasional small flints and charcoal flecks. Pottery of 11th-12th century date was recovered, along with fragments of lava quern, animal bone and ceramic building material (CBM). An environmental sample was taken.

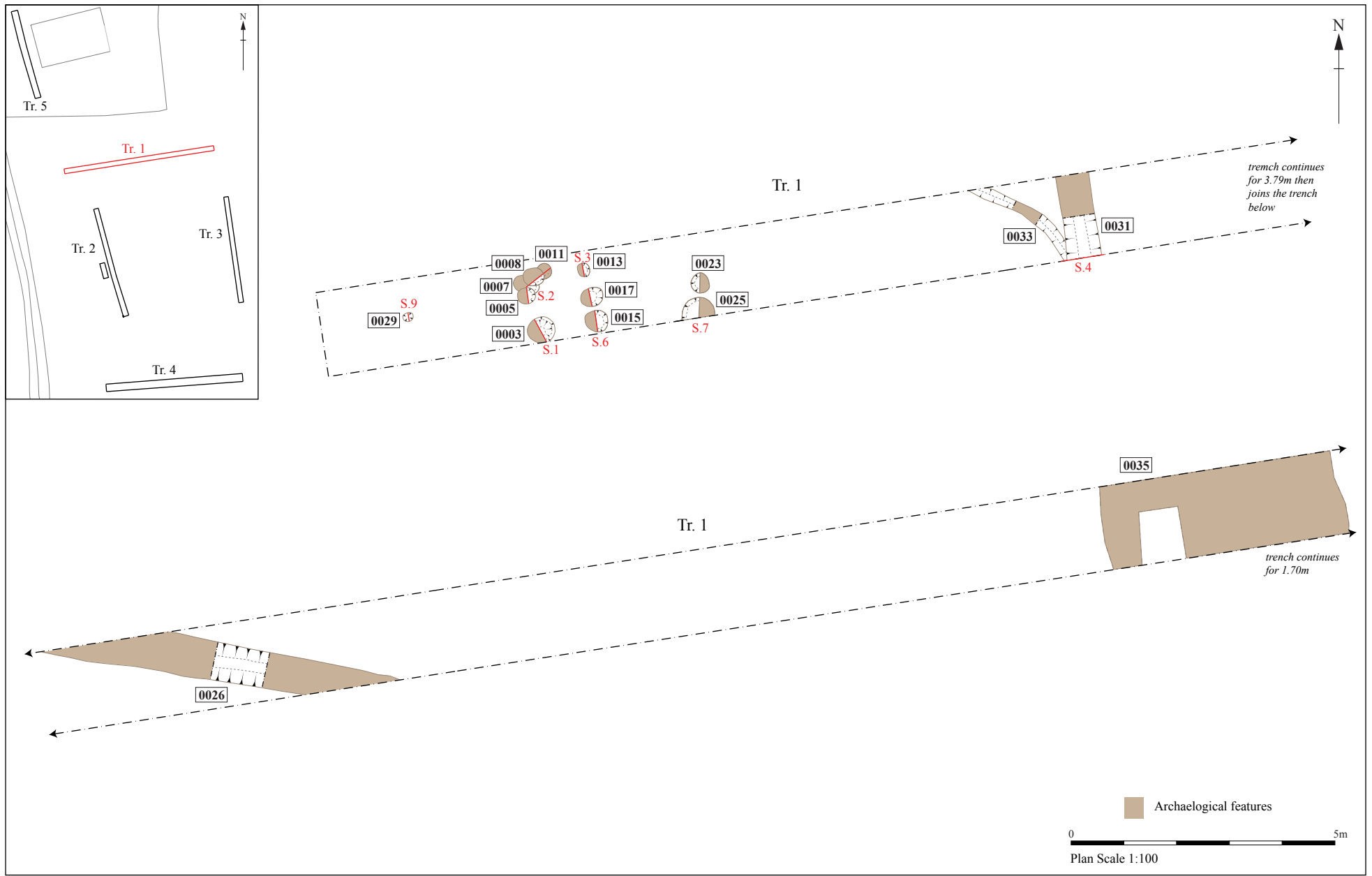


Figure 4. Trench 1, plan

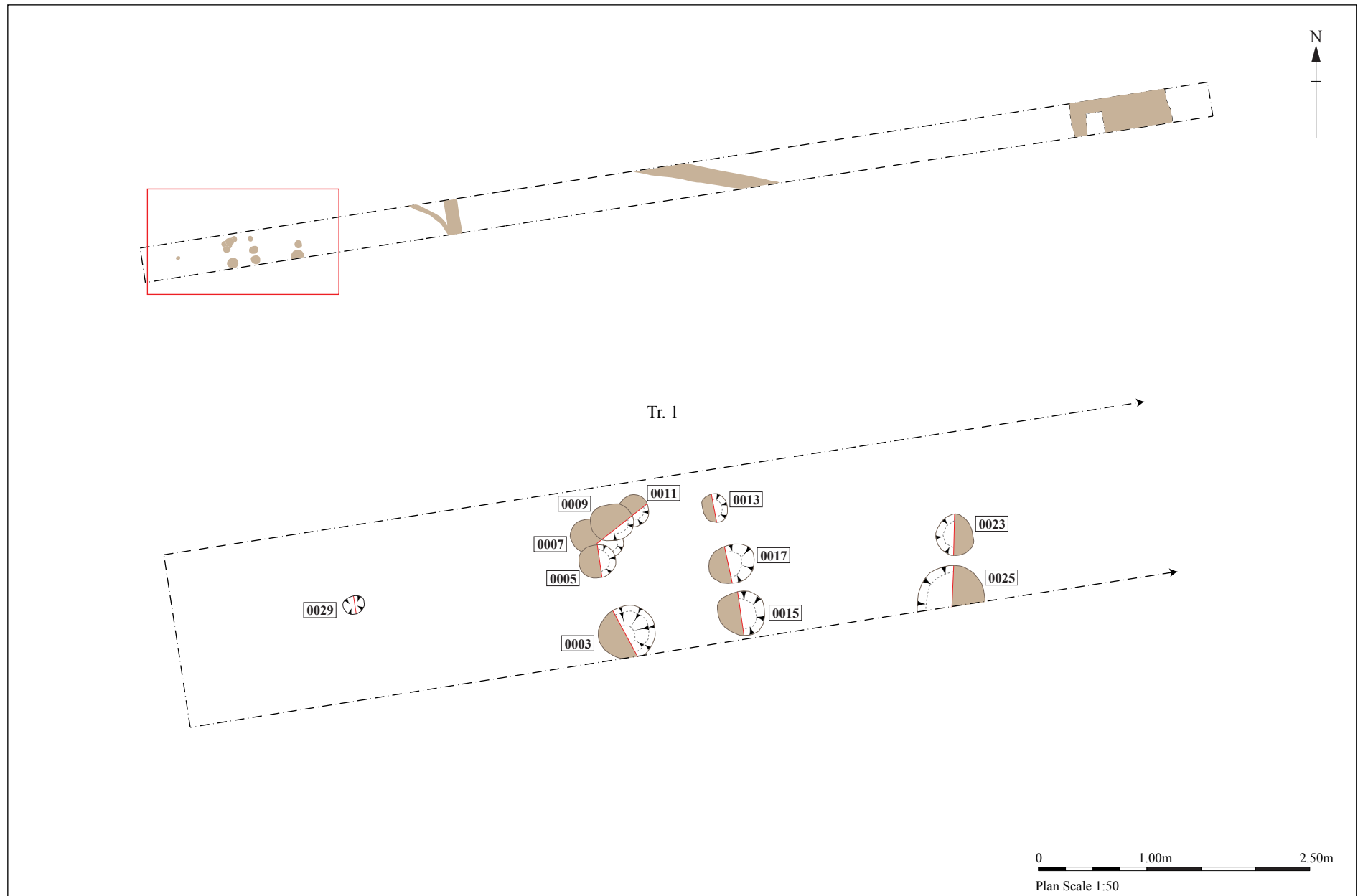


Figure 5. Trench 1, post-hole details

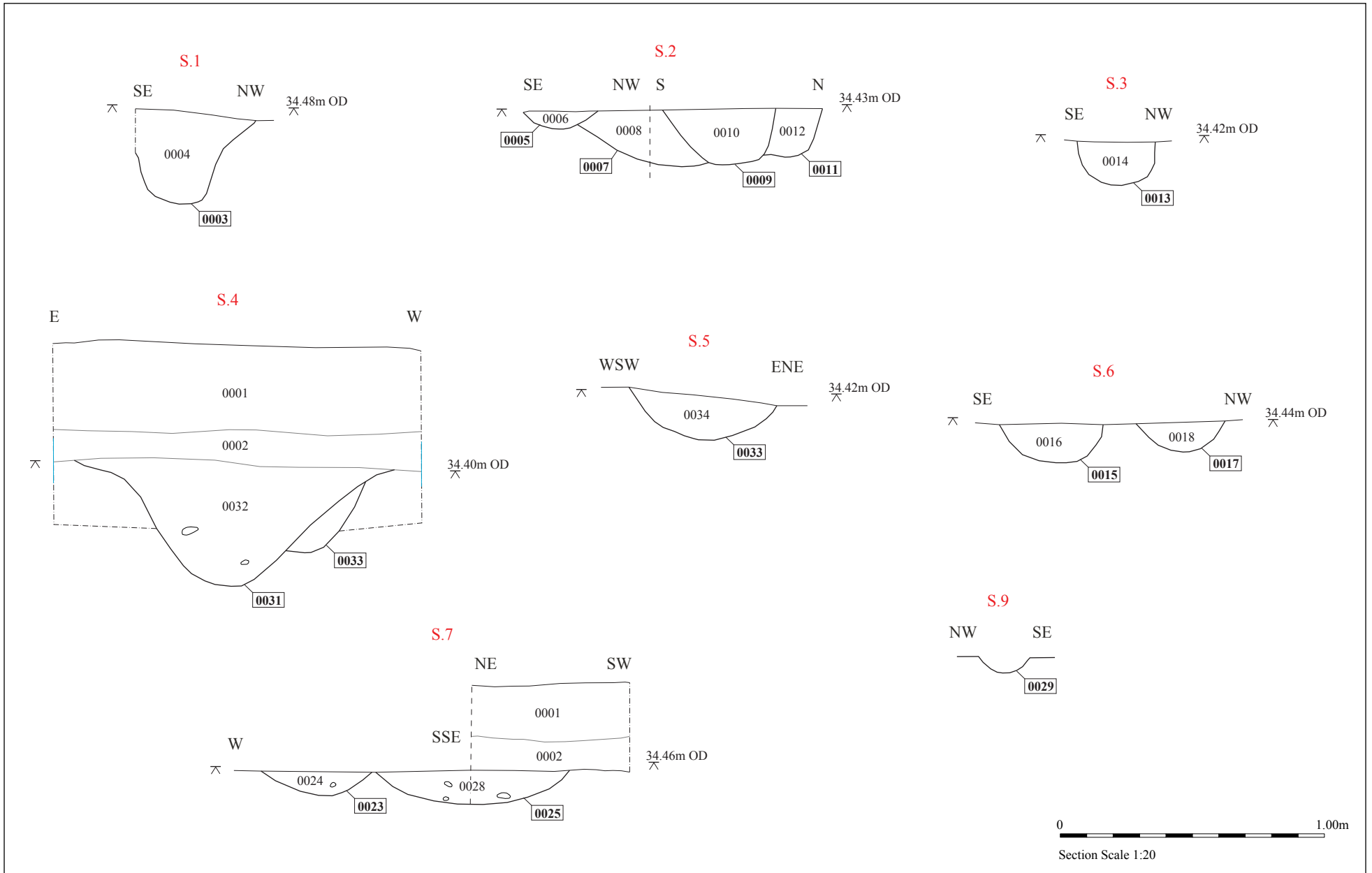


Figure 6. Trench 1, sections

0033 was a narrow, curved gully, aligned approximately south east-north west, with a shallow, rounded profile. It had been cut by ditch 0031 and was filled by 0034, a mid brownish grey silty clay with regular-frequent small flints, more dense towards the base. No finds were recovered from this fill.

0026 was a west north west-east south east aligned ditch, c.0.75m wide and 0.4m deep. It had fairly steep sloping sides breaking gently to a flattish base. Fill 0027 was a friable-compact pale yellowish brown silty clay with occasional chalk and charcoal flecks and flint pebbles. Two fragments of Roman CBM were recovered, along with pottery of 11th-12th century date.

0035 was a large, irregular feature covering c.4.5m of the east end of the trench, filled by a homogenous mid-pale orangey brown friable silty clay which looked fairly close to the natural subsoil in appearance. A section excavated into this feature showed the fill to contain very occasional charcoal flecks, animal bone and 11th-12th century pottery. the section was excavated to a depth of 0.5m before it became inundated with water and as such, it was not possible to establish the full depth and form of the feature

The natural subsoil throughout Trench 1 was a pale yellowish brown chalky clay with patches of orange gravelly clay silt.

Trench 2

0019 was an east north east-west south west aligned ditch, with a gently sloping south side and steeper northern side, both breaking quite sharply to a flat base. Three distinct fills were identified within the ditch cut. 0022 was the primary fill and consisted of a mid brown silty clay mottled with dark orangey brown clay. It was a compact-friable deposit, and quite sterile, possibly representing a re-worked natural subsoil. It was sealed by 0021, a thin layer of mid orangey brown friable clay with regular charcoal flecks and oyster, whelk and snail shells. The upper fill, 0020, was a dark greyish brown silty clay, mottled with dark orange brown silty clay with frequent charcoal lumps and 11th-12th century pot sherds and occasional shells. An environmental sample of this fill was taken.

The natural subsoil throughout the trench was a pale yellowish brown chalky clay with patches of orange gravelly clay silt, more dense towards the south end.

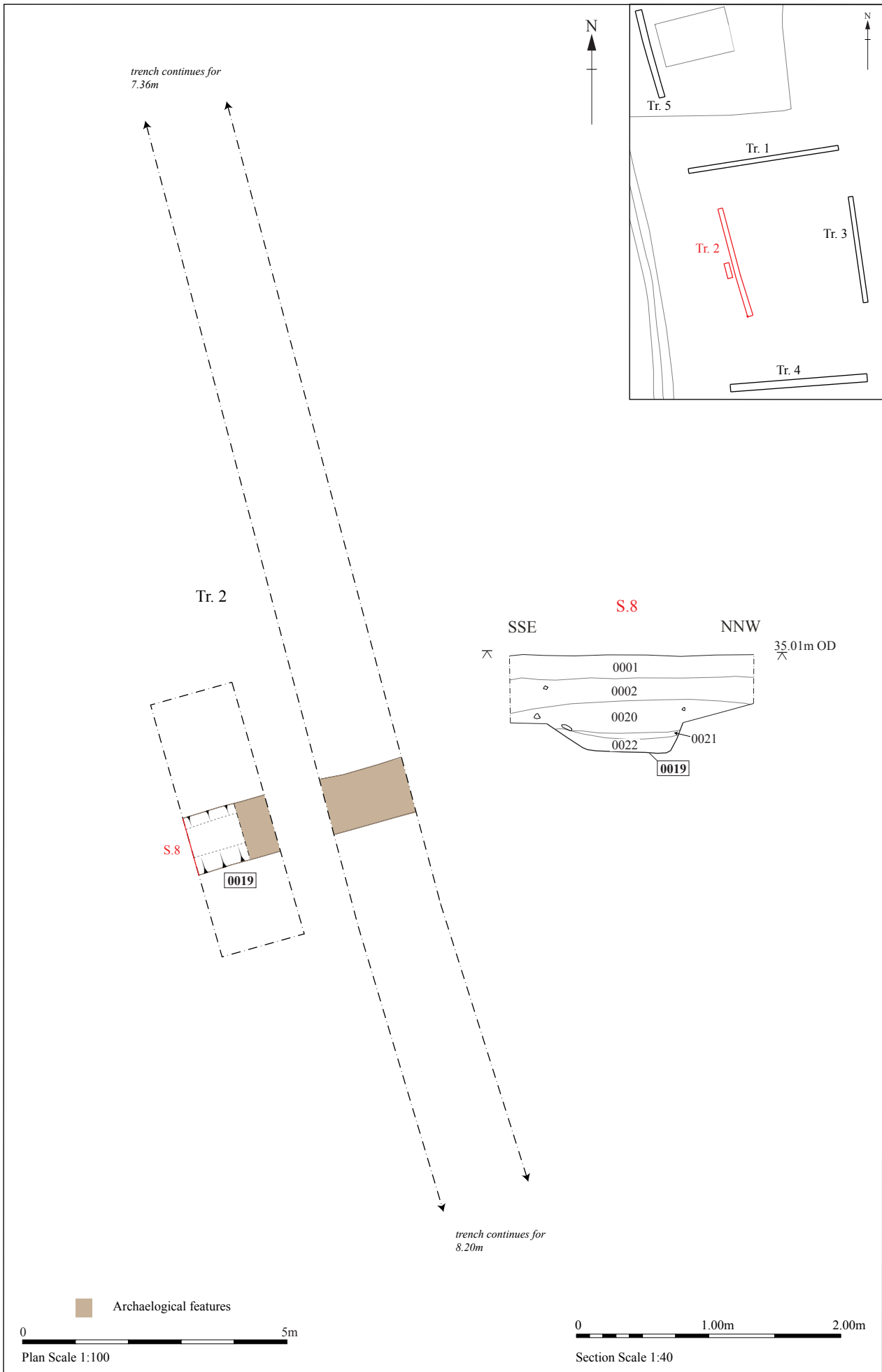


Figure 7. Trench 2, plan and section

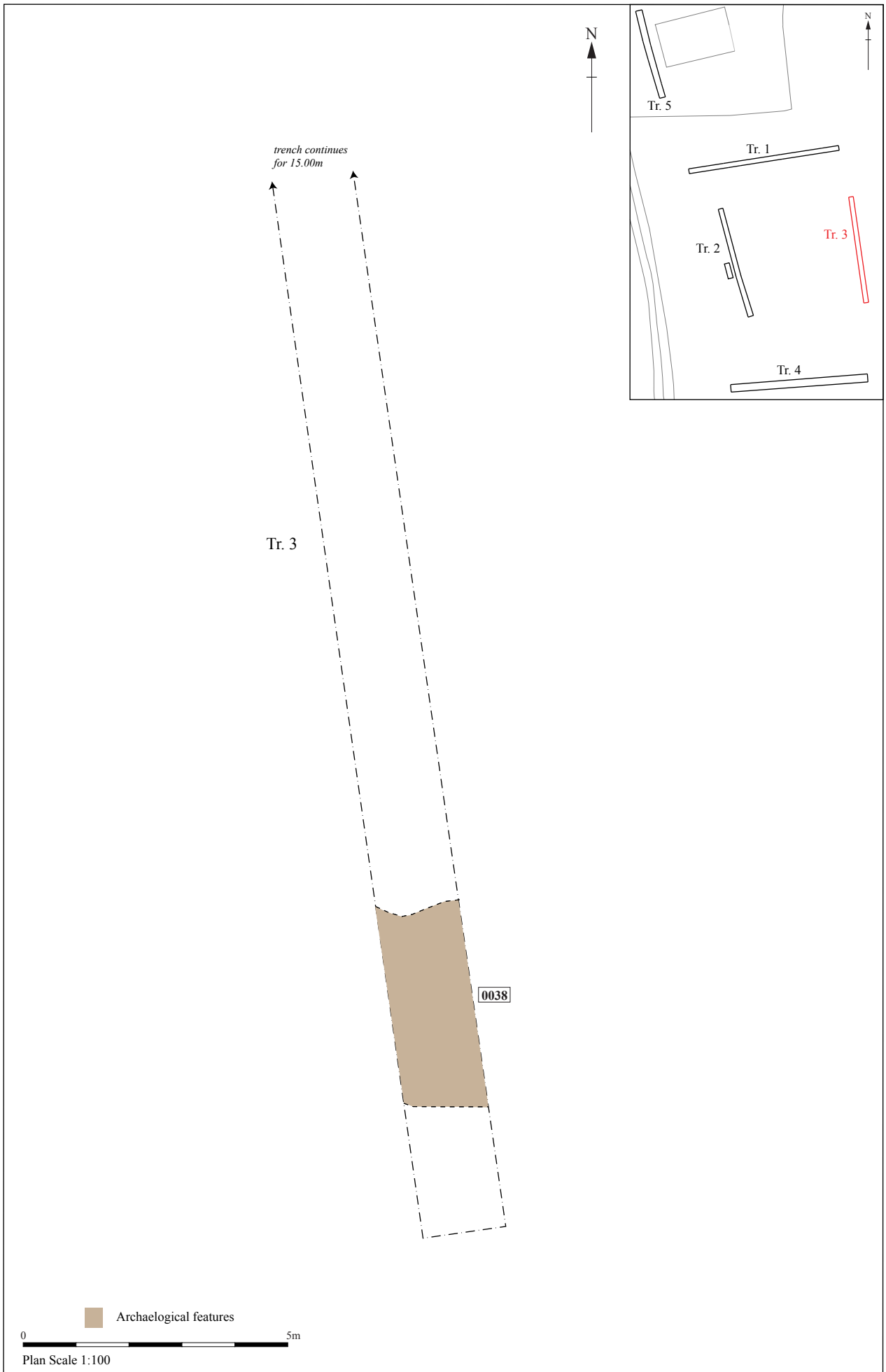


Figure 8. Trench 3, plan

Trench 3

In the south end of the trench, a large, irregular feature (0038) was identified which was very similar in nature to 0035 in Trench 1 and was filled by a similar homogenous mid-pale orangey brown friable silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. The trench filled with water before a section could be excavated to establish the depth and form of the feature.

The natural subsoil throughout the trench was a pale yellowish brown chalky clay with patches of orange gravelly clay silt.

Trench 4

No features were observed within this trench, nor were any artefacts recovered from the upcast spoil. The natural subsoil revealed was a mid orangey brown gravelly silty clay.

Trench 5

In the northern half of the trench, modern disturbance was present to the full depth of 0.9m. At the southern end, disturbed topsoil sealed a layer of pale-mid brown silty clay subsoil c.0.45m thick which was sterile and sealed the natural subsoil, a pale-mid brown chalky clay. No features were observed within the excavated trench.



Plate 1. Trench 1, looking west



Plate 2. Trench 2, waterlogged, looking south

6. Finds Evidence (Richenda Goffin)

Introduction

Finds were collected from 12 contexts, as shown in the table below.

Context	Pottery		CBM		Fired clay		Animal bone		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g		
0004	2	13								11th-14th C
0008	2	31								11th-12th
0010	6	66								M11th-12th C
0014	1	4					1	1		11th-12th C
0016	1	2								11th-12th C
0020	26	174	1	150	9	27	2	80	7 shell @ 80g	M11th-12th C
0024	1	3					5	45		M11th-12th C
0027	5	22	1	75			1	7		11th-12th C
0028	2	19								M11th-12th C
0030	2	7								11th-12th C
0032	8	45			1	4	2	21	2 Lavastone frags @ 46g	11th-12th C
0036	1	8					3	8	1 frag worked flint @ 6g, 1 frag charcoal @ 1g	11th-12th C
Total	57	394	2	225	10	31	14	162		

Table 2 Finds quantities

In addition the following finds were recovered from the soil samples but were not quantified: Fired clay from 0014, 0020, 0027, 0028, 0030 and 0030, lavastone and three small ferrous fragments from 0020. Pottery from 0014, 0020, 0024, 0027, 0028 and 0032 was in the same range of fabrics as the rest of the ceramics from those contexts.

Pottery

A total of 19 fragments of pottery was recovered weighing 394g. The ceramics were quantified using the recording methods recommended in the MPRG Occasional Paper No 2, Minimum standards for the processing, recording, analysis and publication of Post-Roman ceramics (Slowikowski et al 2001). The number of sherds present in each context by fabric, the estimated number of vessels represented and the weight of each fabric was noted. Other characteristics such as form, decoration and condition were recorded, and an overall date range for the pottery in each context was established. The pottery was catalogued on proforma sheets by context using letter codes based on fabric and inputted into the database (Appendix III).

The codes used are based on broad fabric types established by the Suffolk Unit (S Anderson, unpublished fabric list).

The evaluation produced a small and homogenous assemblage of medieval pottery, which was recovered mainly from Trench 1, with one context from Trench 2.

Fifteen of the fragments were recovered from seven post-holes which were part of a group of ten which had been set in three rows. A range of hand-made early medieval wares was identified, characterised by sandy fabrics with different types of additional inclusions which are mainly calcareous. The identified fabrics included Early medieval ware, Early medieval shelly ware, Yarmouth type early medieval ware, Early medieval shell and chalk, as well as the coarser Early medieval gritty ware fabric. Six rim sherds were present in this part of the assemblage, which are thickened and beaded, suggesting a date range of the mid 11th-12th century (Cotter 2000, 50).

A small amount of pottery of a similar date was present in ditch-fill 0032 (0031). The group consists of body sherds, with one small base sherd. A slightly abraded body sherd in a sandy oxidised fabric in pit-fill 0036 (0035) has an internal sooted residue.

The largest quantity of pottery was collected from the upper fill 0020 of the ditch 0019 in Trench 2. The group consists of body sherds from several different early medieval vessels, which are likely to date to around the 12th century. Early medieval gritty ware, Yarmouth-type ware and other Early medieval ware variants were recorded, along with other miscellaneous sandy wares. Although most of these are likely to date to the 12th century it is possible that some of them are medieval coarsewares which are slightly later (12th-14th C). No definite examples of wheelthrown vessels were identified from this feature.

The small assemblage of early medieval pottery provides significant dating evidence for the post-holed structure on the site, which predates the late medieval farmhouse which was built nearby. The range of fabrics and the rim forms identified are consistent with local pottery which was produced in the 11th to 12th century in the region. Only a single decorated fragment was present, a body sherd with an incised wavy line from the fill 0004 of post-hole 0003. Fabrics variants and forms are similar to those catalogued in Colchester, (Cotter 57).

Ceramic building material

Two fragments of Roman ceramic building material were identified (225g). The abraded and fragmentary remains of a possible tegula, with a reduced core and a fine fabric was identified in the fill 0027 of ditch 0026 in Trench 1. This was found with early medieval ceramics of 11th-12th century. A very abraded large piece of brick or tile made in a fine oxidised fabric with moderate red clay pellets and sparse flint inclusions was recovered from fill 0020 of ditch 0019 in Trench 2, also with fragments of early medieval pottery.

Fired clay

Small quantities of fired clay were recovered from ditch-fills 0020 (0019) and 0032 (0031) (10 fragments @ 31g). Nine fragments from fill 0020 are made in a fine soft pale orange/buff fabric containing occasional chalk and orange clay pellets. One of these has a flat surface, but otherwise there are no diagnostic features. The fragment from fill 0032 is similar.

Lavastone

Two small fragments of grey vesicular lavastone which is probably from the Rhineland were present in fill 0032 of ditch 0031. The fragments are abraded and show none of their original surfaces, but are likely to be the remains of quernstones of Roman or medieval date.

Flint

Identified by Colin Pendleton

A single fragment of worked flint was present in pit-fill 0036 (0035). It is a struck hinge-fractured flint dating to the later Prehistoric period.

Animal bone

Identified by Mike Feider

Fourteen fragments of animal bone were collected from the evaluation (162g), all of which came from Trench 1. The assemblage is fragmentary. The remains of three bovine maxillary molars were recovered from the fill 0024 of post-hole 0023. A very damaged cow molar was identified from pit-fill 0036 (0035). A fragment from the fill 0020 of ditch 0019 consisted of an unidentified large mammal pelvis, whilst a large mammal rib and a smaller rib were present in the fill 0032 of ditch 0031. Other fragments are so small that they are undiagnostic.

Molluscs

Two whelks and the remains of five oyster shells were collected from fill 0020 of the ditch 0019.

7. Environmental Evidence (Rachel Fosberry)

Introduction and Methods

Eight bulk samples were taken from features during the evaluation. The flots from these samples were submitted to the Environmental Department at Oxford Archaeology East in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological analysis.

The flots had been obtained by the manual flotation of bulk samples carried out by a member of the SCCAS using a 0.3mm mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at x16 magnification and the presence of any plant remains or other artefacts are noted on Table 3. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands and the authors' own reference collection.

Quantification

For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds, cereal grains and small animal bones have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories

= 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### = 51+ specimens

Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal, magnetic residues and fragmented bone have been scored for abundance

+ = *rare*, ++ = *moderate*, +++ = *abundant*

Results

The results are recorded on Table 3.

Preservation is by charring and is generally poor. Charred plant remains are predominantly cereal grains which are generally abraded and many have been identified as 'cereal indeterminate'. Wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains predominate and include compact, rounded grains of bread/clubwheat (*Triticum aestivum compactum/durum*).

Rye (*Secale cereale*) and barley (*Hordeum* sp.) grains occur rarely. Legumes are rare; peas (*Pisum sativum*) were recovered from two ditch samples (Sample 2, fill 20 and Sample 7, fill 32).

Occasional charred weed seeds include dock (*Rumex* sp.), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), cornflower (*Centaurea* sp.), cleavers (*Gallium aparine*) and grass (*Poaceae*) seeds. Modern contaminants in the form of rootlets and a few common weed seeds such as goosefoot are present in most of the samples and may be an indication of movement of material throughout deposits.

Four post holes thought to be part of the same group/structure were sampled. Only one of the samples (Sample 5, fill 28) produced significant charred plant remains in the form of cereal grains, charcoal and a single grass seed. Sample 1 (fill 14) contains a single charred wheat grain and a dock seed while Sample 4 (fill 24) and Sample 6 (fill 30) both contain only sparse charcoal.

Of the three ditch samples, Sample 2 (fill 20) and Sample 3 (fill 27) are the most productive whilst Sample 7 (fill 32) contains only occasional charred cereal grains and a single cleaver seed. Samples 2 and 3 are similar in content, both containing numerous charred cereal grains including bread wheat and rye along with occasional charred weed seeds.

Several of the sample residues produced magnetic residues none of which contained hammerscale as evidence of blacksmithing activities.

Sample No.		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Context No.		14	20	27	24	28	30	32	36
Cut No.		13	19	26	23	25	29	31	35
Feature type		Post hole	Ditch	Ditch	Post hole	Post hole	Post hole	Ditch	Pit
Cereals									
<i>Hordeum sp. (grains)</i>	Barley					#			
<i>Secale cereale L. (grains)</i>	Rye		#			#		#	
<i>Triticum sp. (grains)</i>	Wheat		##	#		##		#	#
<i>Triticum aestivum/compactum (grains)</i>	Bread/Club wheat	#	##	#				##	
Cereal indet. (grains)			##	#				##	
Other food plants									
<i>Pisum sativum</i>	Peas		#					#	
Dry land herbs									
<i>Centaurea sp.</i>	Cornflower							#	
Chenopodiaceae indet.	Goosefoot		#						
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Goosegrass			#					
Poaceae indet.	Grasses		#			#			
<i>Rumex sp.</i>	Dock	#	#						
Tree/shrub macrofossils									
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel			+					
Other plant macrofossils									
Charcoal <2mm		+	+++	+	+	++	+	++	+
Charcoal >2mm		++	+++	++		++		++	+
Charcoal >10mm		+	++	+		++		++	+
Charred root/stem			##			##		##	
Indet.culm nodes						##			
Indet.seeds			#						
Indet.twig frags.			#						
Other remains									
molluscs		#							
Bone			#						
Volume of flot (litres)		10	30	20	5	4	1	20	20
% flot sorted		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	10

Table 3. Environmental results

Discussion

The charred plant assemblage is dominated by charred cereals, predominantly wheat which was most likely to have been used for bread. The cereal grains may have been

accidentally burnt while being dried prior to storage or during cooking over open fires prior to being deliberately deposited in the ditches or naturally accumulating in the post holes. These grains, along with other dietary remains, namely animal bone and shell fish and the occasional pea, are probably derived from domestic refuse and/or hearth waste.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

The low densities of plant remains from the site are not considered to merit full analysis. The plant assemblage recovered from Brick Kiln Farm does show that there is potential for the recovery of plant remains. If further excavations are planned for this area, it is recommended that a schedule for environmental sampling should be appended to the updated project design.

8. Discussion and recommendations for further work

Whilst no finds were recovered during the metal detecting and fieldwalking phase of the study, a discreet but significant series of features were recorded during the trenched evaluation. These consisted of four ditches and a cluster of post-holes, the latter of which are likely to form part of a structure, all of which contained early medieval pottery dated to the 11th-12th century. Buildings of this date relatively rare.

The pottery assemblage makes a small but significant contribution to our knowledge of medieval ceramics in this parish, and at a broader level, within the county and indicates that a settlement of early medieval date existed on the site or in the vicinity. The quite narrow date range indicated by the pottery suggests that the settlement was relatively short-lived.

The function of the two large features 0035 and 0037 in Trenches 1 and 3 is unclear. Their homogenous and quite sterile fill initially suggested that they could be natural hollows filled by accumulated hillwash deposits. However, it is quite possible that they could represent extraction pits. A brick kiln located approximately 300m south-west of the site would have been likely to utilise materials sourced from the immediate vicinity

and a number of pits and ponds shown around the area on Ordnance Survey maps may have served as extraction pits for the brick works (Fig. 9).

No Roman pottery was recovered from the evaluation, but two fragments of Roman ceramic building material present are of note. Roman metalwork has been recorded in the vicinity, but there is no known Roman occupation in close proximity to the site. However, the Roman town of Combretovium lies within 2km of the site and would have been a potential source of building material to reuse locally in later structures.

In spite of the discovery of Saxon metalwork to the south-west of the site, Early Anglo-Saxon pottery or other artefacts of this date were not identified.

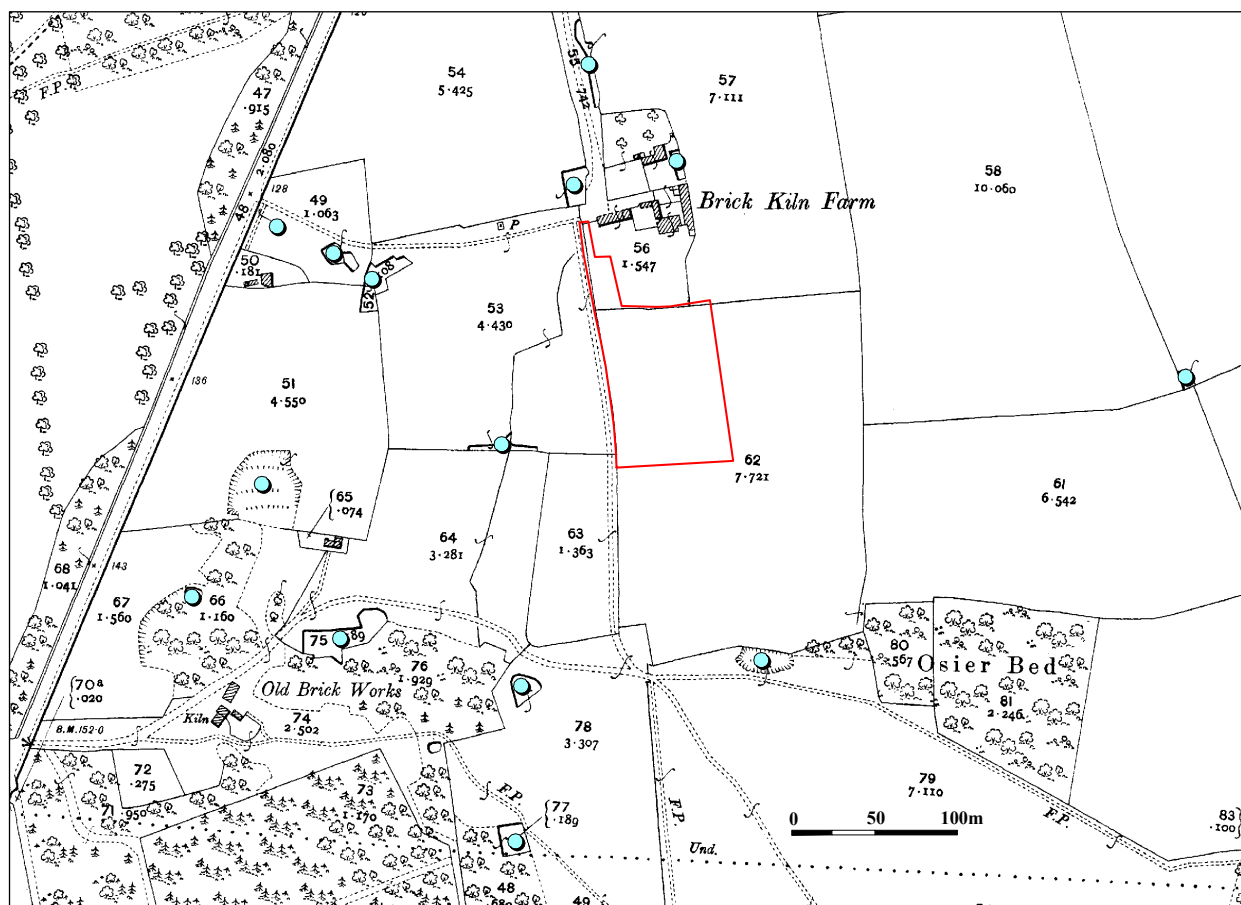


Figure 9. Extract from the 2nd edition OS map, c. 1900, with pits and ponds in the vicinity of the site shown in blue

Development will significantly impact on the archaeological deposits identified at Brick Kiln Farm. Archaeology will certainly be encountered at a depth of 0.4m in the north end of the site around Trench 1, with the potential for other more isolated features to be present at a similar depth elsewhere on the site. In order to preserve such features, a buffer zone at least 0.25m thick should be left between any groundworks and the top of

the first archaeological deposit. If this cannot be ensured, further work will be recommended by SCCAS Conservation Team in order to preserve the site by record.

Linzi Everett

February 2011

Disclaimer

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Team alone. Ultimately the need for further work will be determined by the Local Planning Authority and its Archaeological Advisors when a planning application is registered. Suffolk County Council's archaeological contracting services cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to the clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

References

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Appendix I

CONTEXT	FEATURE	COMP	TRENCH	IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	CUTS	OVER	CUTBY	UNDER	FINDS YN	SAMPLE
0001				U/S	Dark brown silty clay loam, 0.2m-0.3m thick throughout the site					N	
0002				Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay, uniform layer of 0.2m-0.4m over the entire site					N	
0003	0003	0037	1	Post-hole cut	Circular post-hole with gently sloping sides changing to steep sides half way down and a flattish base. c.0.5m diameter, c.0.37m deep.						
0004	0003	0037	1	Post-hole fill	Mid brown silty clay with pocket of pale brown clay. Frequent small stones, occasional charcoal flecks						
0005	0005	0037	1	Post-hole cut	Small, shallow, circular post-hole with gently sloping sides and a rounded profile. c.0.28m diameter, c.0.08m deep	0007					
0006	0005	0037	1	Post-hole fill	Pale brown silty clay						
0007	0007	0037	1	Post-hole cut	Sub-circular post-hole with gently sloping sides and a rounded profile. c.0.5m long, c.0.3m wide, c.0.22m deep			0005; 0009			
0008	0007	0037	1	Post-hole fill	Mid brown silty clay with pockets of pale brown clay. Frequent charcoal flecks, occasional daub fragments.						
0009	0009	0037	1	Post-hole cut	Small, circular post-hole with fairly steep sides breaking sharply to a flattish base. c.0.42m diameter, c.0.23m deep	0007; 0011					
0010	0009	0037	1	Post-hole fill	Mixed pale brown clay and pale brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks						
0011	0011	0037	1	Post-hole cut	Small, circular post-hole with steep sides breaking gradually to a rounded bases. c.0.27m diameter, c.0.19m deep			0009			
0012	0011	0037	1	Post-hole fill	Pale brown silty clay with occasional stones <80mm						
0013	0013	0037	1	Post-hole cut	Small, sub-circular post-hole, 'u' shaped profile, c.0.25m long, 0.2m wide, c.0.17m deep						
0014	0013	0037	1	Post-hole fill	Mid brown silty clay with frequent small stones and occasional charcoal flecks.						1
0015	0015	0037	1	Post-hole cut	Small, circular post-hole with a rounded profile. c.0.39m diameter, c.0.16m deep						
0016	0015	0037	1	Post-hole fill	Mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and small daub fragments.						
0017	0017	0037	1	Post-hole cut	Small, shallow, circular post-hole with a rounded profile. c.0.3m diameter, c.0.08m deep						
0018	0017	0037	1	Post-hole fill	Mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.						
0019	0019		2	Ditch cut	ENE-WSW aligned ditch, gently sloping S side, steep N side, both breaking quite sharply to a flat base.						
0020	0019		2	Ditch fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay, mottled with dark orange brown silty clay. Frequent charcoal and pot sherds, occasional shells		0021		0002	Y	2

CONTEXT	FEATURE	COMP	TRENCH	IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	CUTS	OVER	CUTBY	UNDER	FINDS YN	SAMPLE
0021	0019		2	Ditch fill	Mid orangey brown friable clay with regular charcoal flecks and oyster, whelk and snail shells.		0022		0020	N	
0022	0019		2	Ditch fill	Mid brown silty clay mottled with dark orangey brown clay. Compact-friable, no inclusions, possibly re-worked natural.				0021	N	
0023	0023	0037	1	Post-hole cut	Small, shallow, sub-circular post-hole with a rounded profile.c.0.4m diameter, c.0.37m deep						
0024	0023	0037	1	Post-hole fill	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks, round and sub-angular small flints.					Y	4
0025	0025	0037	1	Post-hole cut	Circular, shallow post-hole with a rounded profile. c.0.6m diameter, c.0.13m deep						
0026	0026		1	Ditch cut	WNW-ESE aligned ditch, sloping sides breaking gently to a flattish base.						
0027	0026		1	Ditch fill	Pale yellowish brown friable-compact silty clay. Occasional charcoal flecks, flints and chalk flecks					Y	3
0028	0025	0037	1	Post-hole fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional-moderate round and sub-angular small flints, more dense towards the feature base.				0002		5
0029	0029	0037	1	Post-hole cut	Very small, circular post or stake hole with a rounded profile. c.0.16m diameter, c.0.08m deep						
0030	0029	0037	1	Post-hole fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with very occasional small rounded flint pebbles and daub flecks.					Y	6
0031	0031		1	Ditch cut	N-S aligned ditch, quite steep sloping sides breaking gradually to a concave base.	0033					
0032	0031		1	Ditch fill	Dark brownish grey silty clay with occasional small flints and charcoal flecks.				0002	Y	7
0033	0033		1	Ditch cut	SE-NW gully, slightly curving, with a rounded profile.			0031			
0034	0033		1	Ditch fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay, regular-frequent small flints, more dense towards the base.					N	
0035	0035		1	Pit cut?	Possible natural hollow/extraction pit.						
0036	0035		1	Pit fill	Mid-pale orangey brown friable silty clay. Homogenous with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks.					Y	
0037			1	Building	Group of 11 post-holes in the W end of trench 1, mostly arranged in 3 roughly parallel lines over a distance of c.4m						
0038	0038		3	Pit cut?	Possible natural hollow/extraction pit. Sides are fairly uneven in plan.						
0039	0038		3	Pit fill	Mid-pale orangey brown friable silty clay. Homogenous with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks but generally quite sterile.				0002		

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for a Archaeological Evaluation

BRICK KILN FARM, HEMINGSTONE, SUFFOLK

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

1. The nature of the development and archaeological requirements

- 1.1 Planning permission for the erection of 14 holiday lodges and associated landscaping on land at Brick Kiln Farm, Hemingstone, Suffolk (TM 1371 5292), has been granted by Mid Suffolk District Council conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (application 0760/06) (see accompanying plan).
- 1.2 The proposed development site has a total area of 0.50ha, located at c. 38 - 40.00m AOD. The underlying geology comprises chalky till with deep loam to clay.
- 1.3 This proposal area lies within 100m of known Roman and Anglo-Saxon finds (HMG 019) recorded in the County Historic Environment Record. Finds of the later period, in particular, are indicative of a probable cemetery site. There is high potential for this area of occupation to extend into the proposal area.
- 1.4 Aspects of the proposed works associated with the erection of the holiday lodges would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 1.5 In order to inform the archaeological mitigation strategy, and as a first part of a staged scheme of archaeological work, the following evaluation fieldwork is required:
 - non-intrusive field-walking and metal-detecting survey;
 - linear trenched evaluation.
- 1.6 The results of this evaluation will enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified, informing both development methodologies and mitigation measures. Decisions on the need for, and scope of, any further work should there be any archaeological finds of significance will be based upon the results of the evaluation and will be the subject of an additional brief.
- 1.7 All arrangements for the field evaluation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated with the commissioning body.
- 1.8 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.
- 1.9 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the WSI as satisfactory. The WSI will provide the basis for measurable standards and will be used to satisfy the requirements of the planning condition.

- 1.10 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination. The developer should be aware that investigative sampling to test for contamination is likely to have an impact on any archaeological deposit which exists; proposals for sampling should be discussed with the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of SCC (SCCAS/CT) before execution.
- 1.11 The responsibility for identifying any constraints on field-work, e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c., ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such constraints or imply that the target area is freely available.
- 1.12 Any changes to the specifications that the project archaeologist may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated directly to SCCAS/CT and the client for approval.

2. Brief for the Archaeological Evaluation

- 2.1 Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ* [at the discretion of the developer].
- 2.2 Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- 2.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- 2.4 Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- 2.5 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.6 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2), all stages will follow a process of assessment and justification before proceeding to the next phase of the project. Field evaluation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential. Any further excavation required as mitigation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential, analysis and final report preparation may follow. Each stage will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design; this document covers only the evaluation stage.
- 2.7 The developer or his archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT (address as above) five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored.
- 2.8 If the approved evaluation design is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected. Alternatively the presence of an archaeological deposit may be presumed, and untested areas included on this basis when defining the final mitigation strategy.
- 2.9 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

3. Specification for the Archaeological Evaluation

- 3.1 A systematic field-walking and non-ferrous metal-detecting survey is to be undertaken across the site. The strategy for assessing the artefact content of the topsoil must be presented in the WSI.

- 3.2 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover a 5% by area, which is 250m² of the site. These shall be positioned to sample all parts of the area (see accompanying plan). Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method, spaced equidistant apart along the easement. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.8m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated; this will result in a minimum of 139m of trenching at 1.8m in width.
- 3.3 If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' at least 1.2m wide must be used. A scale plan showing the proposed locations of the trial trenches should be included in the Written Scheme of Investigation and the detailed trench design must be approved by SCCAS/CT before field work begins.
- 3.4 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine with a back-acting arm and fitted with a toothless bucket, down to the interface layer between topsoil and subsoil or other visible archaeological surface. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.
- 3.5 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.
- 3.6 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation; that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled. For guidance:
- For linear features, 1.00m wide slots (min.) should be excavated across their width;
- For discrete features, such as pits, 50% of their fills should be sampled (in some instances 100% may be requested).
- 3.7 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.
- 3.8 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. The contractor shall show what provision has been made for environmental assessment of the site and must provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from J. Heathcote, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.
- 3.9 Any natural subsoil surface revealed should be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Sample excavation of any archaeological features revealed may be necessary in order to gauge their date and character.
- 3.10 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.
- 3.11 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed SCCAS/CT during the course of the evaluation).

- 3.12 Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. However, the excavator should be aware of, and comply with, the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.
- 3.13 Plans of any archaeological features on the site are to be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum. Any variations from this must be agreed with SCCAS/CT.
- 3.14 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies and/or high resolution digital images.
- 3.15 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.
- 3.16 Trenches should not be backfilled without the approval of SCCAS/CT.

4. General Management

- 4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by SCCAS/CT. The archaeological contractor will give not less than five days written notice of the commencement of the work so that arrangements for monitoring the project can be made.
- 4.2 The composition of the archaeology contractor staff must be detailed and agreed by this office, including any subcontractors/specialists. For the site director and other staff likely to have a major responsibility for the post-excavation processing of this evaluation there must also be a statement of their responsibilities or a CV for post-excavation work on other archaeological sites and publication record.
- 4.3 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are available to fulfill the Brief.
- 4.4 A detailed risk assessment must be provided for this particular site.
- 4.5 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 4.6 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

5. Report Requirements

- 5.1 An archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1).
- 5.2 The report should reflect the aims of the WSI.
- 5.3 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 5.4 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given. No further site work should be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established.
- 5.5 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.

- 5.6 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including an assessment of palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 5.7 The results of the surveys should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the County HER.
- 5.8 A copy of the Specification should be included as an appendix to the report.
- 5.9 The project manager must consult the County HER Officer (Dr Colin Pendleton) to obtain a HER number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.
- 5.10 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*.
- 5.11 The project manager should consult the SCCAS Archive Guidelines 2008 and also the County HER Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive.
- 5.12 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner/developer to the deposition of the finds with the County HER or a museum in Suffolk which satisfies Museum and Galleries Commission requirements, as an indissoluble part of the full site archive. If this is not achievable for all or parts of the finds archive then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate. If the County HER is the repository for finds there will be a charge made for storage, and it is presumed that this will also be true for storage of the archive in a museum.
- 5.13 The site archive is to be deposited with the County HER within three months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 5.14 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project (whether it be evaluation or excavation) a summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology*, must be prepared. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 5.15 County HER sheets must be completed, as per the County HER manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 5.16 Where appropriate, a digital vector trench plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the County HER. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.
- 5.17 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.
- 5.18 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the County HER. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

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Archaeological Service Conservation Team

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Date: 11 April 2008

Reference: / BrickKilnFarm_Hemingstone2008

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

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

Appendix III

Context	Pottery no.	Pot. Wt	Ceramic period	CBM no.	CBM Wt	Fired clay no.	Wt	Stone no.	Stone Wt	Animal bone no.	bone Wt	Shell no.	Shell Wt	Miscellaneous
0004	2	13	MED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0008	2	31	MED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0010	6	66	MED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0014	1	4	MED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0016	1	2	MED	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	
0020	26	174	MED	1	150	9	27	0	0	2	80	7	80	Oyster x 5, whelk
0024	1	3	MED	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	45	0	0	
0027	5	22	MED	1	75	0	0	0	0	1	7	0	0	
0028	2	19	MED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0030	2	7	MED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0032	8	45	MED	0	0	1	4	2	46	2	21	0	0	Lavastone frags
0036	1	8	MED	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	8	0	0	1 frag charcoal @