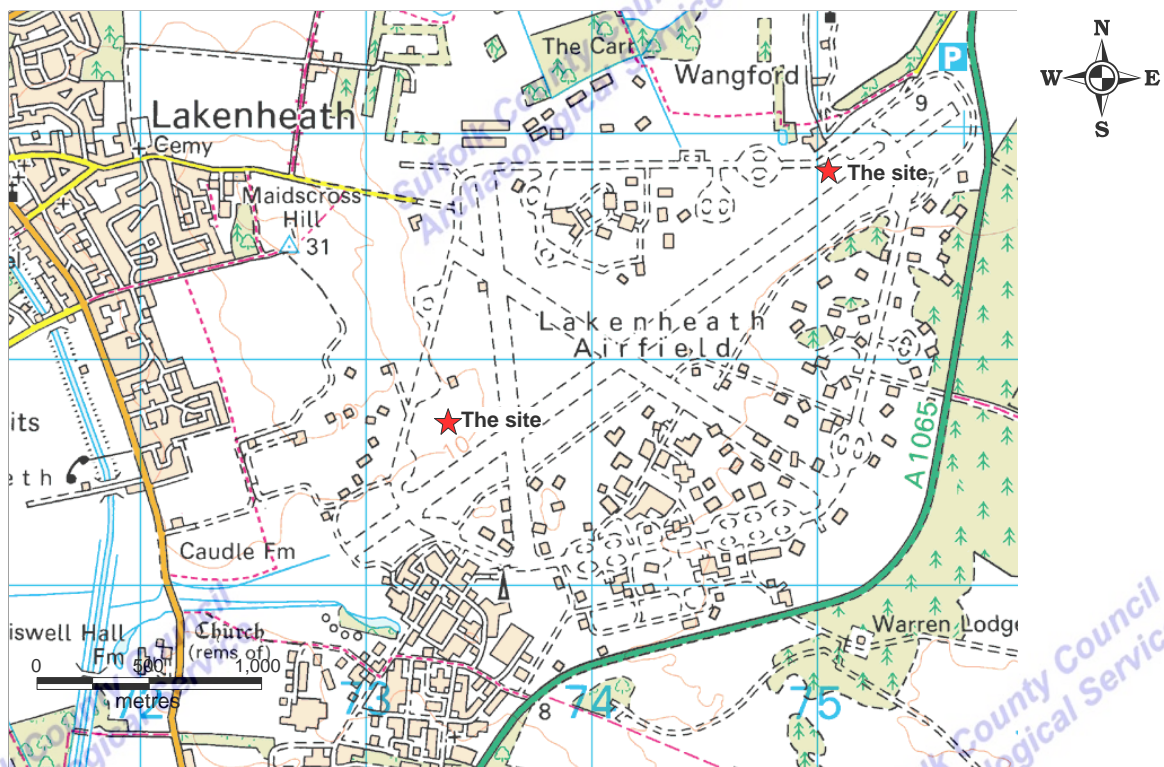


RAF Lakenheath
LKH 232, Install Weather Station
Archaeological monitoring report.
Report no. 2005/105

Grid reference: TL 7336 8170, TL 7504 8281.
Date of fieldwork: May 2004
Project Officer: Jo Caruth
Funding body: MOD DE (USF)
Oasis reference: suffolkc1-9615

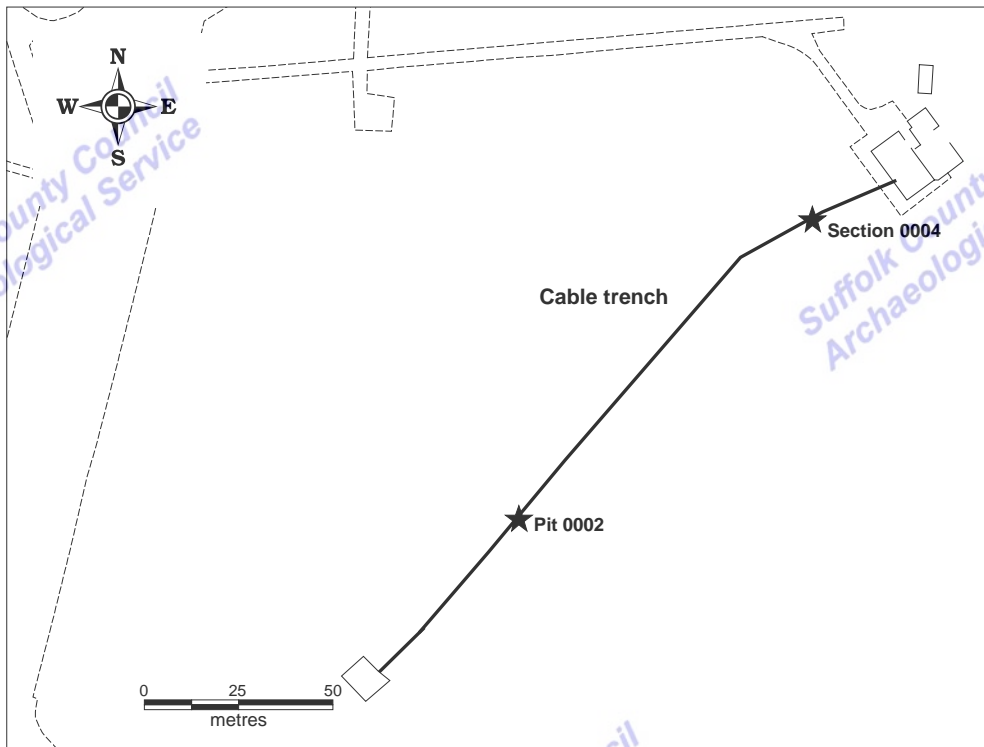
Summary

Archaeological monitoring during the installation of a new weather station on the airfield at RAF Lakenheath revealed evidence of redeposited soil, and a single undated pit filled with charcoal and burnt flint in the centre of the airfield. Fen deposits were discernible near Wangford Farm.



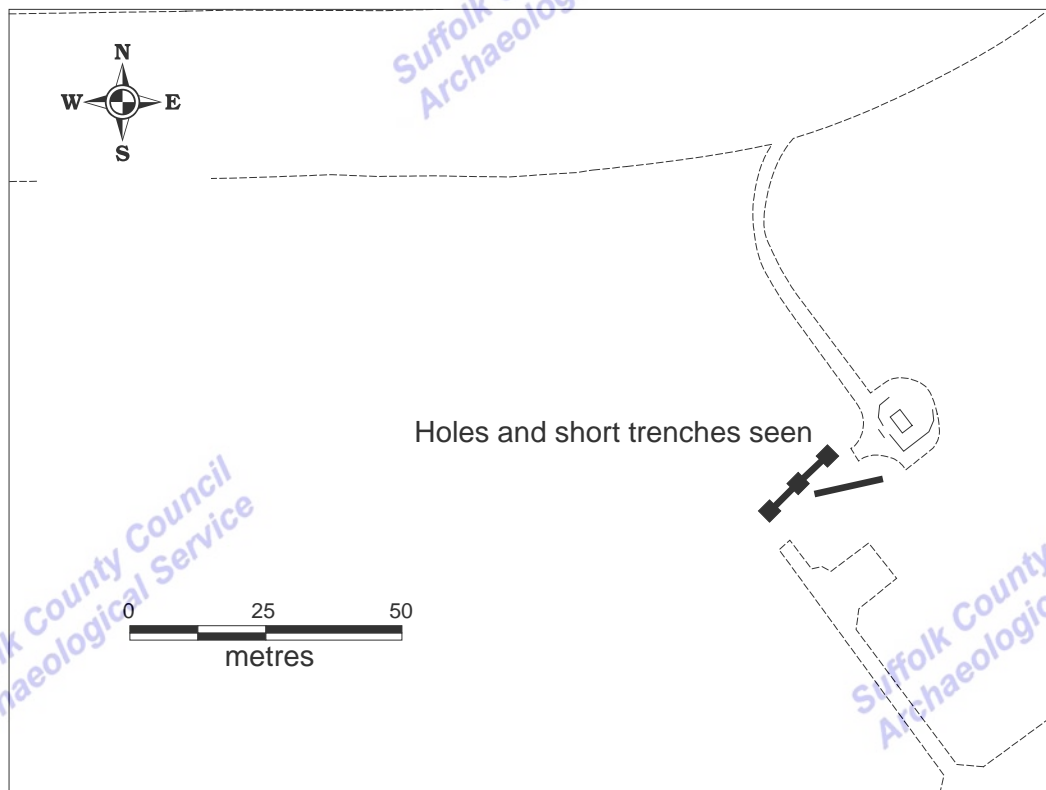
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Figure 1 Site location



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Figure 2 Trench in centre of the airfield



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Figure 3 Trenches and holes opposite Wangford Farm

Results

Monitoring during the construction of new weather stations at RAF Lakenheath took place in the centre of the airfield at TL 7336 8170 and near Wangford Farm at TL 7504 8281.

A trench, 200m long was monitored in the centre of the airfield. This showed redeposited sand and chalk, c. 0.2m deep, lying under c. 0.25m of topsoil. The original ground level was indicated by a dark buried turf line under the redeposited soil, which in turn overlay windblown sand 0.35m deep. The natural was clean yellow sand found at c.1.05m, but between this and the windblown sand were layers of dirty yellow sand and mixed chalk and sand. However these appeared to have been naturally deposited. A single feature, pit 0002 was found. This was 0.7m in diameter x 0.25m deep and filled with burnt flint and charcoal rich sand. There was no dating for this feature, but it is probably prehistoric.

Opposite Wangford Farm, three 1.2m square holes linked by short lengths of trench, totalling 9m were seen. These showed disturbed soil profiles but evidence of windblown sand over thin desiccated fen deposits was discernible.

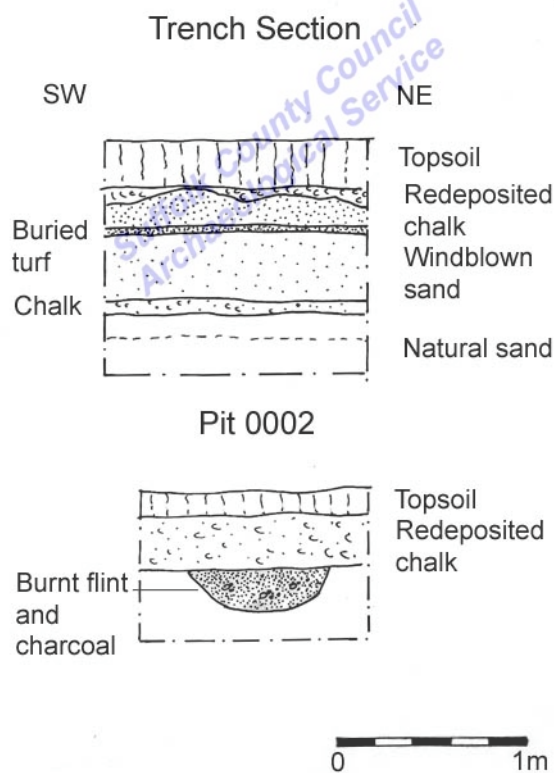


Figure 4 Sections

Conclusion

This monitoring identified a single undated pit in the centre of the airfield but otherwise confirmed evidence from other projects that the area has been subject to levelling and soil deposition and that Wangford Fen once extended well into the airfield.

Jo Caruth
August 2005