

HERITAGE NETWORK

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**Land north of
MANOR FARM HOUSE
Haverhill, Suffolk**

HN1056
HVH080

***ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION REPORT***

Revision A

THE HERITAGE NETWORK LTD

Registered with the Institute of Field Archaeologists as an Archaeological Organisation

Archaeological Director: David Hillelson, BA MIFA

Land north of MANOR FARMHOUSE, Hamlet Road, Haverhill, Suffolk

Project ref.: HN1056

LPA ref.: SE/12/1517

HER ref.: HVH080

Archaeological Evaluation

Prepared on behalf of Mr B. Clarke

by

Greg Jones, MA BA (HONS) AIFA

Report no. 785

April 2013

(Rev A – 04/07/2013)

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The front cover shows the site, looking west

Acknowledgements

The evaluation fieldwork for this project was carried out by Greg Jones and Robin Densem and the report text and illustrations were compiled by Greg Jones and edited by David Hillelson.

The Heritage Network would like to express its thanks to Mr. B Clarke, Neil Cook of New World Architectural and to Rachael Monk, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), for their co-operation and assistance in the execution of this project.

Summary

Site name and address:	Land north of Manor House Farm, Haverhill, CB9 8EH.		
County:	Suffolk	District:	Edmundsbury Borough Council
Village/town:	Haverhill	Parish:	Haverhill
Planning reference:	SE/12/1517	NGR:	TL 67794502
Client name and address:	Mr. B.Clarke, Sukha, Brackley Green, Hundon, Suffolk, CO10 8DT		
Nature of work:	New dwellings	Current land use:	Garden
Site Status:	None	Reason for investigation:	Direction of LPA (NPPF)
Position in planning process:	After full determination (as a condition)	Project brief originator:	Local Authority
Size of affected area:	c. 1200m ²	Size of area investigated:	c.48m ²
Site code:	HN1056	HER reference:	HVH080
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Project type, methods etc...	Trial trench evaluation	Archive recipient:	Suffolk
Start of work:	23/04/2013	Finish of work:	24/04/2013
Related HER nos:	n/a	Periods represented:	Modern
OASIS UID:	heritage1-147678	Significant finds:	None
Monument types:	None		
Physical archive:	None		
Previous summaries/reports:	None		

Synopsis:

In order to characterise the archaeological potential of the site of a proposed new development on land north of Manor Farmhouse, Haverhill, Suffolk, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the owner to undertake an archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching. This work was a requirement of the planning consent granted by the local planning authority.

Two trenches were excavated across the site, revealing modern made up and levelled ground and alluvial deposits from a former pond.

On the basis of the results of the evaluation, the risk that the proposed development might disturb archaeological remains of significance may be considered to be *Low* for all periods.

1 Introduction

1.1 This report has been prepared at the request of Mr. B. Clarke to cover a programme of archaeological work carried out in advance of proposed development on land to the north of Manor Farmhouse, Haverhill, Suffolk.

1.2 Planning consent for the proposed development (ref: SE/12/1517) has been granted by St Edmundsbury Borough Council (SEBC) subject to a standard suite of archaeological conditions issued under the provisions set out in the Department of Communities and Local Government's National Planning Policy Framework.

1.3 The scope of the required work was defined in an advice letter prepared by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), acting as archaeological adviser to the SEBC (ref. 2012_1517). A full specification for the work is contained in the Heritage Network's approved Project Design dated April 2013.

1.4 The site is located within a north-west to south-east running valley of a tributary of the River Stour, which flows to the north-east of the site. It is centred on NGR TL 6779 4502, and currently comprises the rear garden to Manor Farm (Figure 1). The site lies on the northern side of Manor Farm Close and is bounded to the north by properties fronting Hamlet Road and Manor Farm Close, to the west by Manor Farm House (no. 33 Hamlet Road), and to the south and east by Manor Farm Close.

1.5 The site consists of land formerly part of Manor Farm. The present Manor Farm House was built between 1960 and 1978. There are no known archaeological remains on the site, but there are remains dating from the Iron Age and Roman periods in close proximity.

1.6 The aim of the evaluation has been to consider the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any remains that are liable to be threatened by the development, and to provide a local and regional, archaeological and historical context for them, in accordance with the current published regional research agenda (Glazebrook 1997, Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Oake *et al* 2007, Medlycott 2011), should they be discovered. It was considered that such investigation had the potential to identify archaeological deposits which might contribute to an understanding of the origins and development of Haverhill, from the prehistoric period onwards. Of particular interest is evidence that might clarify the nature and extent of Iron Age and Roman settlement; the Iron Age / Romano-British transition period and the nature and extent of settlement in the medieval period.

1.7 The proposed development entails the erection of two detached dwellings with associated garages, services and landscaping.

2 Fieldwork

TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

2.1 The site is located in an area of clay soils above glaciofluvial drift. Archaeological fieldwork in the vicinity of the site indicates that the underlying natural is reached at depths of between 0.30m and 0.40m below the present ground surface.

2.2 The site lies between 65 and 70m AOD, on flat land in the bottom of the valley of the Stour Brook, a tributary of the River Stour. The land rises gently to the south-west.

METHODOLOGY

2.3 All fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the approved Project Design, current health and safety legislation, and the appropriate IfA and ALGAO guidance documents.

2.4 The overburden was removed, under close supervision, to the first significant archaeological horizon, or to the natural geological horizon, as appropriate using a 3-tonne tracked mini-digger mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.5m wide toothless bucket.

2.5 Spoil from the machining was scanned visually and using a metal detector for archaeological artefacts.

2.6 The exposed area was cleaned by hand, and potential archaeological features and deposits were sampled to ascertain their nature, depth, date, and quality of preservation.

2.7 All identified contexts were photographed and recorded using the appropriate pro-forma. Scaled plans and sections were drawn on drafting film at scales of 1:10 and 1:20.

RESULTS

2.8 Two trial trenches were opened across the site. These were located with reference to known constraints across the site (Figure 2).

Trench 1

2.9 Trench 1 was located in the northern corner of the site, measured 12m long by 2m wide and was orientated NW-SE (Figure 2).

Trench 1

Recorded data:

Length (m):	12	Width (m):	2	Maximum Depth (m):	c.0.80	Orientation	NE-SW
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	62.23	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	62.50
		Base	61.51			Base	61.68
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
102	Layer	10YR 5/6 Yellowish Brown medium sandy clay subsoil with chalk and gravel inclusions and frogged brick fragments.	>12	>2	0.70		
101	Layer	10YR 5/4 Yellowish Brown firm natural clay	>12	>2	>0.35		

2.10 The stratigraphy of Trench 1 consisted of *c.*0.70m of yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) medium sandy clay subsoil with chalk and gravel inclusions and frogged brick fragments; overlying a yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) firm clay natural (Plates 1 & 2).

2.11 The south-western end of the trench was crossed by a modern drain or sewer pipe running east-west. No archaeological features or finds were present within Trench 1.

Trench 2

2.12 Trench 2 was located to the immediate northeast of Trench 1 and was oriented E-W (Figure 2). It measured 25m long by 3m in width (Figure 4).

Recorded Data

Length (m):	12.0	Width (m):	2.0	Maximum Depth (m):	<i>c.</i> 1.7	Orientation	NW-SE
Level at NW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	62.87	Level at SE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	62.62
		Base	61.11			Base	61.60
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
203	Layer	10YR 4/4 Yellowish Brown firm redeposited clay, topped by topsoil – Modern made-ground	>12	>2	<i>c.</i> 1.10		
202	Layer	10YR 3/3 Dark Brown friable alluvial silty clay. One fragment of charcoal.	>12	-	0.15		
201	Layer	10YR 5/4 Yellowish Brown firm, natural clay.	>12	>2	>0.40		

2.13 The stratigraphy in Trench 2 consisted of Yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) firm modern made-ground including redeposited clay, *c.*1.1m thick, above dark brown (10YR 3/3) friable alluvial silty clay layer which appeared to be waterlain, over yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) firm clay natural.

2.14 The northern corner of the trench revealed what appeared to be a silted up natural water feature filled with the dark brown (10YR 3/3) friable alluvial silty clay layer described above.

2.15 No other features or finds were revealed in Trench 2.

3 Discussion

Archaeological Background

3.1 There are no known heritage assets within the boundary of the site. A search of the Suffolk *Historic Environment Record* and other readily accessible sources has assisted in establishing the archaeological and historical context for the present site.

3.2 Limited evidence for early prehistoric activity has been recorded from the town, largely in the form of chance finds of stone implements. A handaxe of Palaeolithic date (HER HVH 014) was found on the western side of the town, over 1km to the west of the study area. A pointed Palaeolithic handaxe (HER HVH 013) was recovered from the back garden of 8 Hudson Close, approximately 660m to the ESE of the study area.

3.3 Flint implements of Mesolithic date have also been recorded from the wider area. A number were recovered during the archaeological investigations ahead of the construction of the A604 Haverhill Bypass (HER HVH 039), over 1km to the north-west. Others were found during excavations in St Botolph's Churchyard on Crowland Road (HER HVH 005), approximately 1.4km to the north-west.

3.4 Evidence for later prehistoric activity has been recorded from Haverhill, including flint implements recovered during the archaeological investigations ahead of the construction of the A604 Haverhill Bypass at Burton End and Puddlebrooke (HER HVH 039), over 1km to the south-west.

3.5 Features of Bronze Age date were identified during archaeological fieldwork ahead of housing development on land off Chalkstone Way (HER HVH 059), approximately 880m to the north-east. A system of parallel ditches, dated to the late Bronze Age / early Iron Age, was recorded during the evaluation (Craven 2006). Two pits of Bronze Age date, located 12m apart in the centre of the site and apparently isolated from contemporary features, were revealed during the subsequent excavation on the site (Craven 2008). Pottery sherds, struck flints and animal bone fragments were recovered from their fills.

3.6 Significant evidence for Iron Age activity has been recorded from archaeological investigations around Haverhill. Excavations in the 1990s, in the Hazel Stub and Puddle Brook areas (HER HVH 024, HVH 035 and HVH 036), over 1km to the west, uncovered a number of Iron Age features. Other fieldwork in the immediate vicinity of the study area has also produced evidence of Iron Age occupation of the area. Features relating to possible domestic or agricultural activity of early Iron Age date were identified during archaeological fieldwork at land off Chalkstone Way (HER HVH 059), approximately 880m to the north-east (Craven 2008). Archaeological fieldwork on the eastern side of the site of the Haverhill Business Park (HER HVH 056), approximately 810m to the south-east of the study area, also revealed a single pit containing pottery dated to the early to middle Iron Age (Gardner 2006). Previous fieldwork on the adjacent western side of the Business Park site had uncovered the remains of a settlement that started in the late Iron Age and continued into the Roman period (ibid, p.1).

3.7 Slight evidence for later Iron Age activity was recorded at Millfields Way (HER HVH 019), approximately 430m to the north-east. Archaeological evaluation of land between Chalkstone Way and Millfields Way in 1992 revealed a scatter of features which had been

dated to the Iron Age or early Saxon periods (Gill 1992). Subsequent excavation in 2002 revealed a small number of possibly natural features and a pit containing late Iron Age pottery (Craven 2002).

3.8 Finds of Iron Age artefacts have also been recorded from the vicinity of the study area. A hoard of fifty late Iron Age gold coins, together with a possible coin mould (HER HVH 001) was found during drainage works at Millfield Farm Place in 1788, approximately 910m to the NNE. Sherds of late Iron Age pottery, including imported vessels, were found at Coupals Road (HER HVH 008), approximately 660m to the ESE, and the top stone to a rotary quern (HER HVH 047) was found on Mount Road, approximately 320m to the NNW. An undated inhumation (HER HVH 008) was also found near the pottery sherds on Coupals Road.

3.9 Evidence for Roman occupation has been recovered from archaeological fieldwork around the town. Features and finds of Roman date were uncovered in 1993, during excavations ahead of the construction of the Haverhill Bypass (HER HVH 024), over 1km to the west. Trial trenching on the site of Haverhill Business Park (HER HVH 056), approximately 810m to the south-east, revealed two linear ditches, containing small amounts of early Roman pottery (Gardner 2006). These may be related to the Iron Age / Romano-British settlement recorded during excavations on the western side of the Business Park site (ibid, p.1).

3.10 Pottery and coins of Roman date have also been recovered from the immediate vicinity of the study area. A denarius of Augustus, dated 19 – 15 BC (HER HVH 003), was found on the cricket ground approximately 240m to the NNE. Two late Roman coins, one of the Emperor Gordian III, the other of Licinius II (HER HVH 002), were found on Chalkstone Hill, approximately 845m to the north-east. A scatter of Roman pottery sherds, tile fragments and tesserae was found with the Iron Age material on Coupals Road (HER HVH 008), approximately 660m to the ESE and a small group of sherds was found behind McQue's Snooker Club (HER HVH 020), approximately 585m to the south-east.

3.11 No evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity has, as yet, been recorded from the vicinity of the study area, though Haverhill was apparently a thriving settlement by the late Saxon period. From c.1008 until 1896, the core of the town lay in the Risbridge Hundred of Suffolk, but the area around Hamlet Road, to the south of Duddery Hill, lay in the Hinckford Hundred of Essex (Haverhill history). The Domesday Book shows that the area was apparently divided between the manors of Haverhill and of Coupals Farm, with a number of smaller estates, by the late Saxon period.

3.12 A fortified settlement may have been established at Burton End, approximately 1.2km to the north-west of the study area, possibly in the 8th century (Haverhill history). It is thought that a substantial village developed in this area, at the point where Clements Lane crosses Camps Road into Crowland Road and around the parish church of St Mary's (ibid).

3.13 The Domesday Survey of 1086 records Haverhill as a thriving settlement with a market. The lands in Suffolk were apparently divided between three small estates and the larger manor. The lands at Coupals Farm in Essex were divided between two landholders, Richard, son of Count Gilbert, and Ralph Baynard (Rumble 1983). Richard's estate measured approximately 55 acres, including 2 acres of meadowland, and was occupied by five families. Ralph's property, which he had annexed illegally from the Abbey lands, comprised 1 hide and

43 acres (approximately 163 acres), including 15 acres of meadow. This land had been held by 6 families before 1066.

3.14 The earliest town at Haverhill developed around the area called Burton End and the parish church of St Mary's, later renamed St Botolph's Church (Haverhill history). At some point in the 13th century a second church, also dedicated to St Mary (HER HVH 016), was established on the main highway (now High Street) and the town centre moved approximately 0.5km to its present location, approximately 750m to the north-west of the study area.

3.15 Although much of the medieval town was destroyed in a disastrous fire in 1667, which affected the town from Swan Lane to Duddery Hill, a small number of buildings survived (Haverhill history). The Essex side of the town, to the south of Duddery Hill, was less badly affected. A number of buildings with medieval origins still remain in this area, including possibly the building known as 'Anne of Cleves' House' on Hamlet Road, approximately 110m to the north-west. This is a Grade II* listed building of 16th century date (LBS 466406), but is thought to incorporate parts of the earlier farmhouse on the site, which dated to around 1480 (Haverhill history). The house called 'Weavers' on Hamlet Road, approximately 220m to the north-west, is a timber-framed Grade II listed building of late 15th century date (LBS 466410). It was used as a school in the 17th century and later as offices.

3.16 Archaeological fieldwork has produced evidence of medieval activity in the town. Pottery sherds of late Saxon / early medieval date were found by the Haverhill and District Archaeology Group to the rear of McQue's Snooker Club (HER HVH 020), approximately 585m to the south-east of the study area. Monitoring of groundworks behind the Queen's Head in 2002 (HER HVH 049), approximately 810m to the north-west, revealed a number of features of 12th – 14th century date (Gill 2002).

3.17 During the 16th century a boom in agriculture meant that the town became relatively prosperous. For most of the post-medieval period agriculture was one of the major industries in Haverhill. The parish map of 1737 shows large open fields with strip cultivation surrounding the town, which were enclosed in the early 19th century. At least three windmills are known from the vicinity of the study area (HER HVH 018, HVH 032 and HVH 033). These were located in the open fields around the town and demonstrate the importance of agricultural work to the population. A steam mill, called Taylor's, was built in the 1870s (Haverhill history).

3.18 Archaeological investigation within the town has revealed evidence for post-medieval activity, including 11 parallel ditches on land off Chalkstone Way (HER HVH 059), approximately 910m to the north-east of the study area, and a single ditch and pit adjacent to Nunn's Yard (HER HVH 051), approximately 905m to the north-west of the study area.

Research Design

3.19 The aim of the evaluation has been to consider the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any remains that are liable to be threatened by the development, and to provide a local and regional, archaeological and historical context for them, in accordance with the current published regional research agenda (Glazebrook 1997, Brown and Glazebrook 2000, Oake *et al* 2007, Medlycott 2011), should they be discovered.

3.20 It was considered that such investigation had the potential to identify archaeological deposits which might contribute to an understanding of the origins and development of

Haverhill, from the prehistoric period onwards. Of particular interest was evidence that might clarify the nature and extent of Iron Age and Roman settlement, the Iron Age / Romano-British transition period and the nature and extent of settlement in the medieval period.

Conclusion

3.21 The evaluation uncovered evidence for a backfilled water feature, which appears to equate to a pond last shown on OS 1:2500 series mapping of c.1960 in the north-eastern corner of the site.

3.22 On the basis of the results of the evaluation, the risk that the proposed development might disturb archaeological remains of significance may be considered to be *Low* for all periods.

Confidence Rating

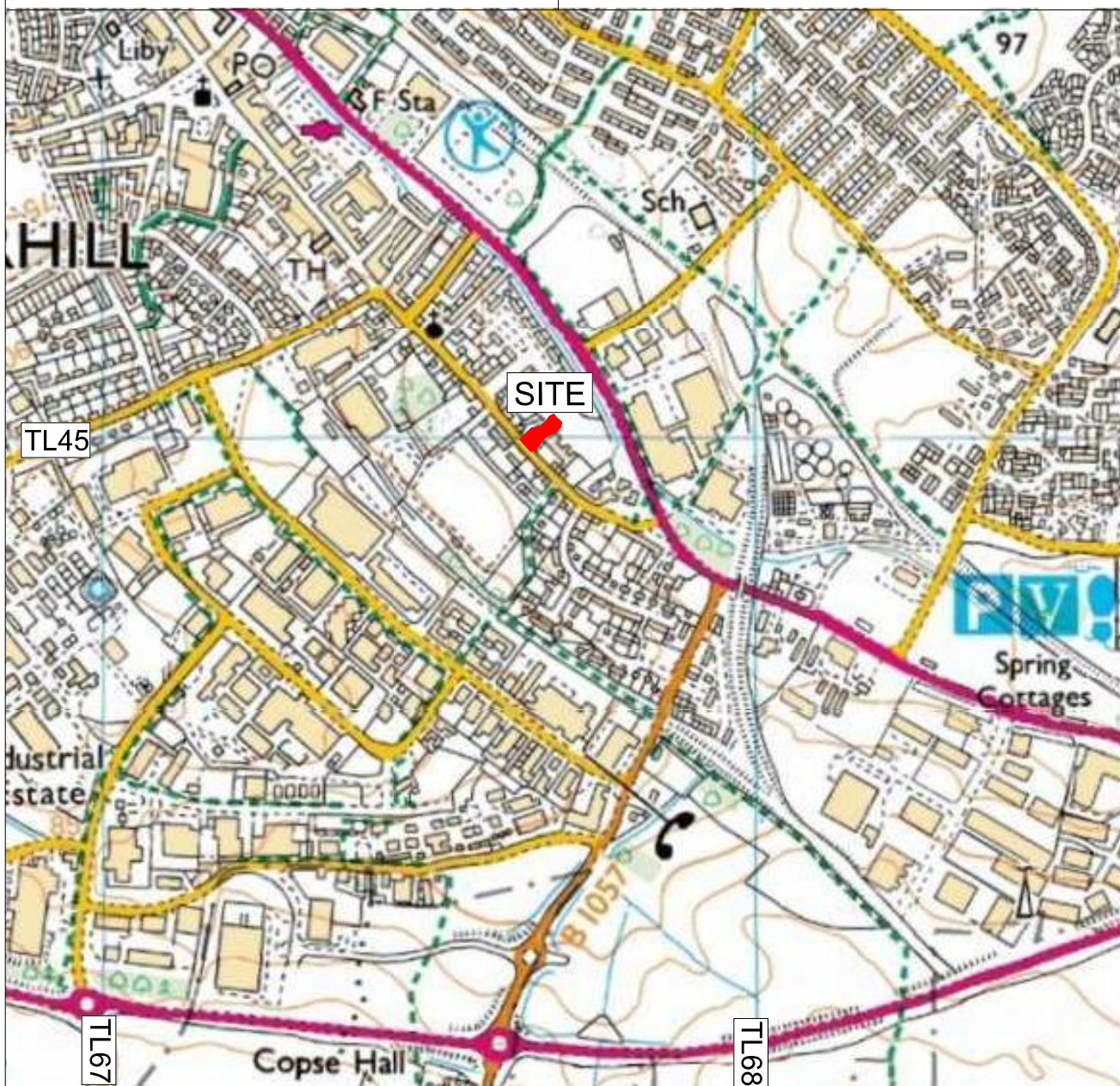
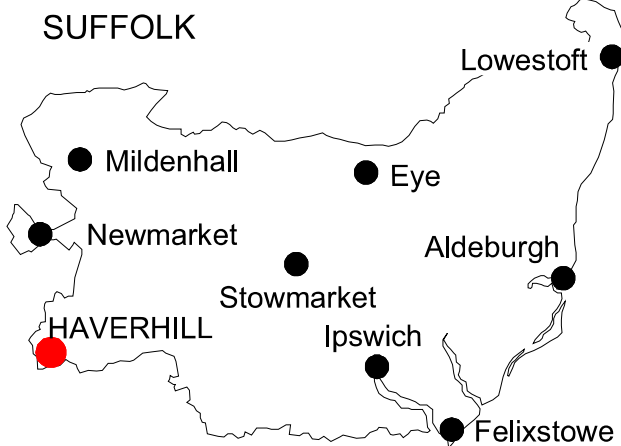
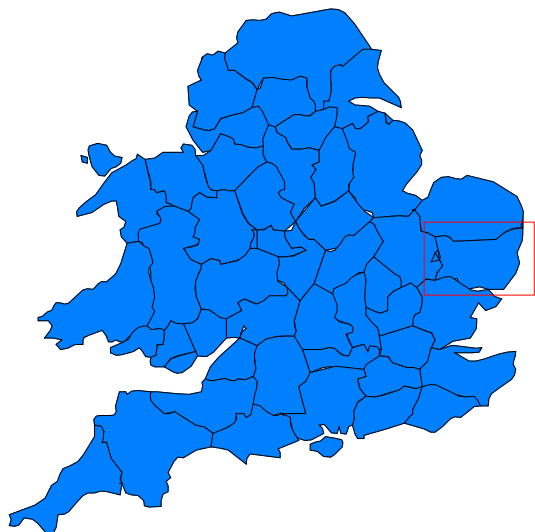
3.23 During the course of the fieldwork, the conditions were generally acceptable for the identification of potential features and deposits, and for their investigation. There were no circumstances which would lead to a confidence rating for the work which was less than *High*.

4 Sources Consulted

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5 Illustrations

- Figure 1 Site location
- Figure 2 Site Layout
- Figure 3 Trench 1: Trench plan and section
- Figure 4 Trench 2: Trench plan and section
-
- Plate 1 Trench 1, looking northeast
- Plate 2 Trench 1 section looking southeast
- Plate 3 Trench 2 looking southeast
- Plate 4 Trench 2 section looking northeast



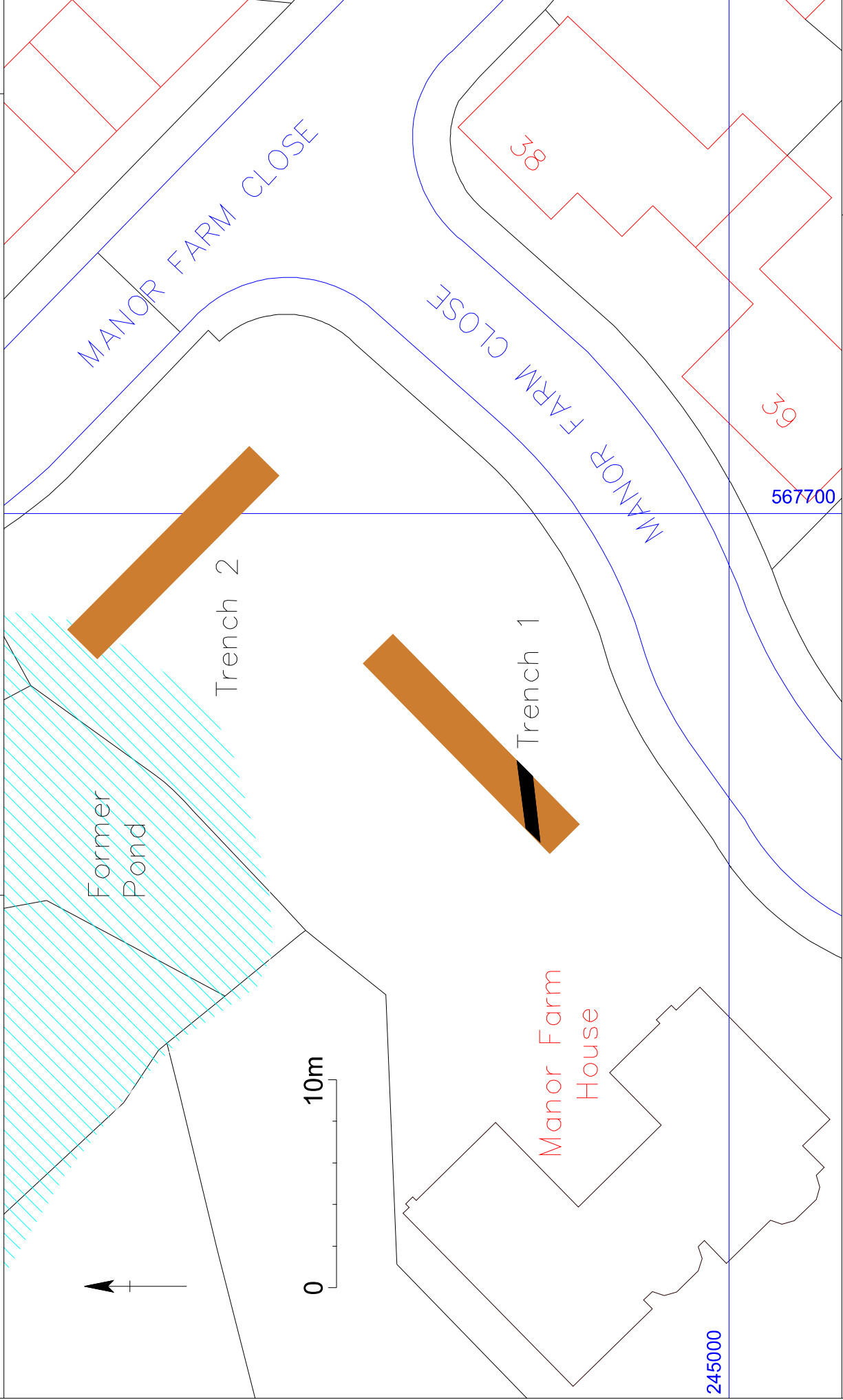
Site Location

Scale 1:5000

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Land N of Manor Farm House, Hamlet Rd, Haverhill, Suffolk

HN1056

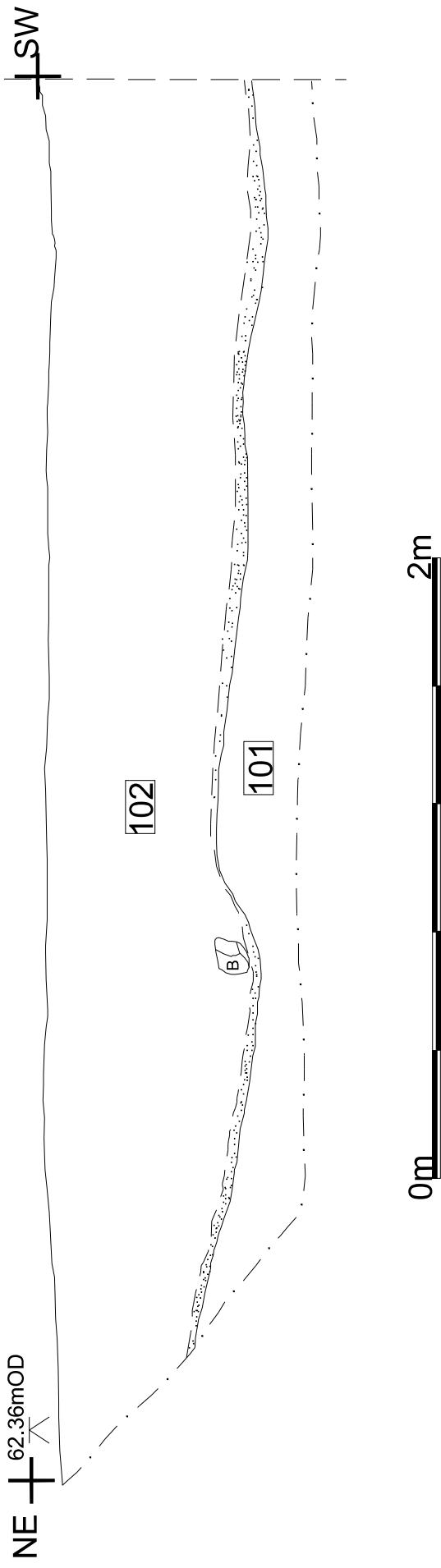
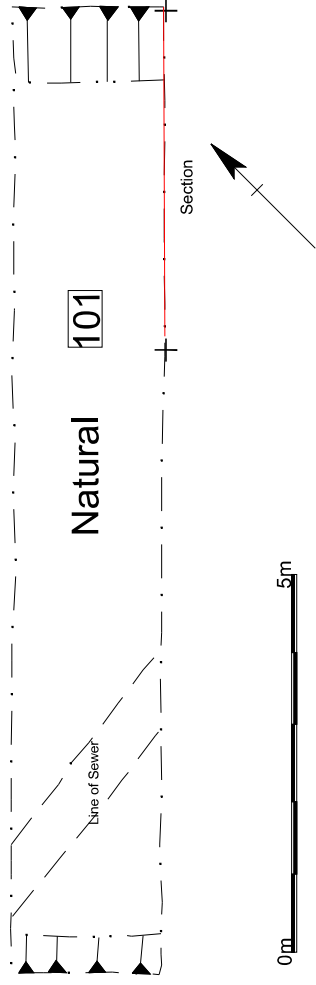


Location of Trenches

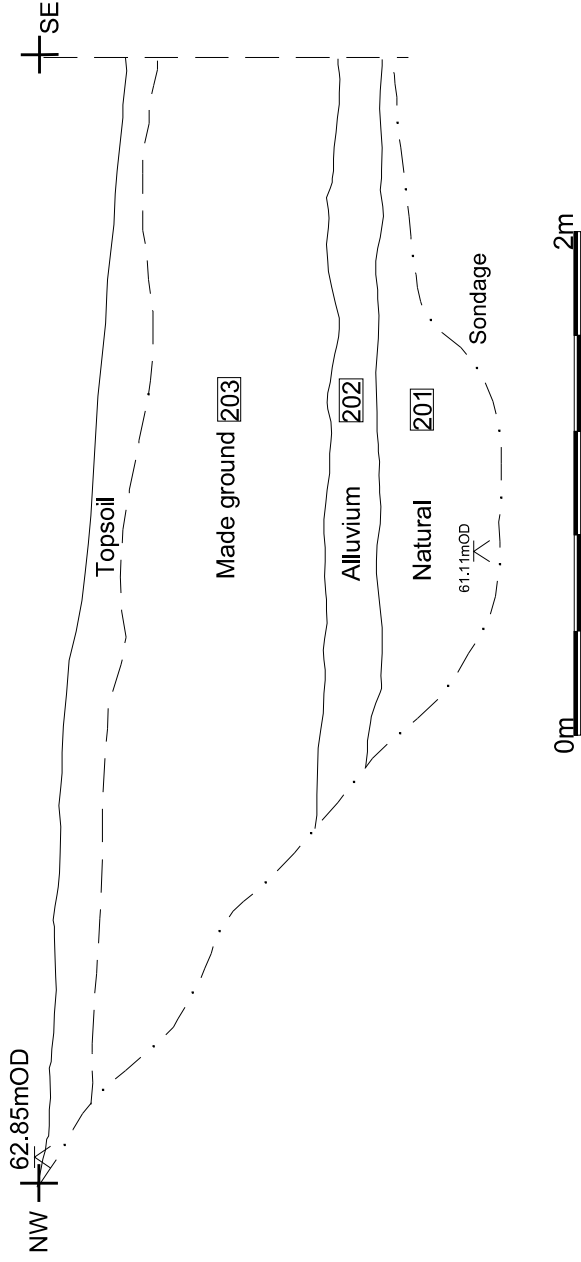
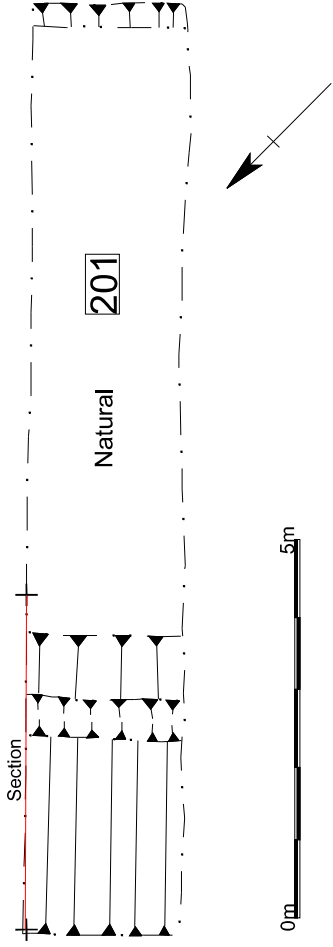
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Scale 1:250

Figure 2



Plan & Section of Trench 1



Trench 2 Plan & Section



Plate 1: Trench 1 looking NE



Plate 2: Trench 1 section looking SE



Plate 3: Trench 2 looking SE



Plate 4: Trench 2 section looking NE

Appendix

Oasis Summary Sheet

OASIS ID: heritage1-147678	
Project details	
Project name	Land north of Manor Farmhouse, Haverhill; Suffolk.
Short description of the project	<p>In order to characterise the archaeological potential of the site of a proposed new development on land north of Manor Farmhouse, Haverhill, Suffolk, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the owner to undertake an archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching. This work was a requirement of the planning consent granted by the local planning authority.</p> <p>Two trenches were excavated across the site, revealing modern made up and levelled ground and alluvial deposits from a former pond.</p> <p>On the basis of the results of the evaluation, the risk that the proposed development might disturb archaeological remains of significance may be considered to be Low for all periods.</p>
Project dates	Start: 23-04-2013 End: 24-04-2013
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Associated project reference codes	HN1056 - Contracting Unit No.
Associated project reference codes	HVH080 – Historic Environment Record No.
Associated project reference codes	n/a
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Garden
Monument type	None
Monument type	None
Significant Finds	None
Methods & techniques	"Photographic Survey", "Sample Trenches"
Development type	Residential
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After determination (as a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK ST. EDMUNDSBURY BOROUGH Land north of Manor Farmhouse, Haverhill
Postcode	CB9 8EH
Study area	1200 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 6779 4502
Height OD / Depth	Min: 61.11m Max: 62.87m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Heritage Network
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Heritage Network
Project director/manager	David Hillelson
Project supervisor	Greg Jones

Type of funding body	Developer
Name of funding body	Mr. B. Clarke
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	St. Edmundsbury Museums
Physical Contents	None
Digital Archive recipient	St. Edmundsbury Museums
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography" ,"Text"
Paper Archive recipient	St. Edmundsbury Museums
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Photograph","Plan","Section","Survey "
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land North of MANOR FARMHOUSE, HAVERHILL SUFFOLK
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Jones, G. / Hillelson, D.
Other bibliographic details	Heritage Network Report No. 785
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	Heritage Network
Place of issue or publication	Letchworth, Hertfordshire
Description	A4 booklet, comb bound, green cover, 10 pages, 4 figures, 4 plates