

**An Archaeological Evaluation on
Land Adjacent to Factory Lane, Brantham, Suffolk**

NGR: TM 10526 33104

Planning Ref: Pre-determination

**ASE Project No: 8262
Site Code: BNT069**

**ASE Report No: 2014363
OASIS id: archaeol6-194764**

**Author Robin Wroe-Brown
With contributions by
Helen Walker
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Abstract

Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to Factory Lane, Brantham, Suffolk. At the time the evaluation was conducted almost all of the land consisted of ploughed fields apart from a small area within the industrial estate to the south.

Thirty-seven trenches were excavated by machine down to the natural deposits. Topsoil, in all cases but one consisting of ploughsoil, was approximately 0.30m thick. The exception was a trench within the industrial estate which showed evidence of landscaping. Topsoil was only 100-150mm thick in this area.

Archaeological features were recorded in only two trenches, with a further six containing modern features and deposits other than topsoil. A large shallow hollow was recorded in Trench 21 to the north-west of the site, which yielded finds from the late 13th- mid 14th centuries. A post-medieval field boundary was recorded in Trench 31 close to the south side of the site, which aligned with an existing field boundary.

The report concludes that the very limited nature of the archaeology recorded indicates a low potential for survival across the site.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to Factory Lane, Brantham, Suffolk.

1.1.2 The proposed development area is situated to the north and south of Factory Lane, which lies to the south of the village of Brantham and the new settlement of Cattawade. The area to be evaluated comprises 8.5 hectares of arable farmland and a small area of land within an industrial estate, bounded to the north by Brooklands Road, to the east by a large wildfowl decoy pond, to the south by Brantham Industrial Estate, which is served by Factory Lane, and to the west by Grimswade Close. Further to the south lies the Stour Estuary (Figure 1).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 Due to the presence of the nearby Stour Estuary the development site lies in an area of transitional geology. The bedrock geology for much of the site, particularly that lying to the north of Factory Lane, comprises the silty clay of the Thames Group with no overlying superficial deposits. Sand of the Red Crag Formation outcrops in the area of Brooklands Road, again with no overlying superficial deposits, while to the south of Factory Lane the bedrock comprises clay silt and sand of the Thanet Sand Formation and Lambeth Group (undifferentiated) overlain by intertidal deposits associated with the Stour Estuary (BGS Geology of Britain Viewer; Accessed 18/09/2014).

1.2.2 The north side of the site is on a hill c 23.50m AOD at its highest point. It slopes down to the flood plain of the River Stour at the base of the hill at between 3m and 6m AOD in the southern field (Trenches 31-33) and further down to 2.26m AOD adjacent to the southernmost trench (Trench 12) in the industrial estate. A ridge which forms a field boundary crosses most of the site at approximately 10m AOD. It has been created by the levelling off of the lower southern field to allow more effective ploughing.

1.2.3 To the south-west the development area includes a house plot adjacent to Factory Lane, the building on which has been demolished. To the south-east a flat plot of land surrounded on two sides by industrial estate buildings is also included in the development.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 The evaluation is being undertaken in support of a future planning application for development and the scope of work complies with requirements agreed during pre-application discussions between the client and Dr Matthew Brudenell, Senior Archaeological Officer, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team.

1.4 Scope of Report

- 1.4.1 This report presents the results of the thirty-seven archaeological evaluation trenches excavated on the site between 6th and 15th of October 2014 (Figure 2). It followed the methodology laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2014).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Background

- 2.1.1 The following archaeological background makes use of information regarding the site provided by CgMs Consulting, with due acknowledgement.
- 2.1.2 The Stour Estuary will have acted as a significant focus for settlement and landuse over the millennia, offering excellent access to natural resources and providing an important transport route, both to the coast and inland, facilitating the movement of goods, people and new ideas. This is reflected in the presence of known archaeological sites in the wider vicinity of the development area spanning virtually every period from early prehistory through to the post-medieval period.
- 2.1.3 A number of Bronze Age urns (BNT003), probably indicating a cremation cemetery, were recorded in the Brantham area during sand extraction in the 1940s. Sherds of Iron Age Belgic pottery (BNT016) were found during the construction of a new road, Pattern Bush Close, immediately to the north of the northern boundary of the site. These were reputedly found in association with several sherds of Roman pottery, while the remains of at least two 2nd-century cremation urns were found during works at The Gables (BNT006), collectively indicating the presence of Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman settlement in the wider vicinity of the site.
- 2.1.4 Several finds of Anglo-Saxon metalwork have been made in the Brantham area including an 8th – 9th century disc brooch and a bronze stirrup mount (BNT029), suggesting that the area continued to be a focus for activity, while 12th/ 13th century references to a salthouse at Brantham further demonstrate the ongoing exploitation of the area's natural resources. This is further highlighted by the large wildfowl decoy pond (BNT018) lying immediately to the east of the site, which was positioned to take advantage of the large numbers of birds, by repute Ruddy Duck and Pochard, that would have been present in the estuary.
- 2.1.5 The site has previously been the subject of a geophysical survey (magnetometer), which identified very few anomalies of potential archaeological origin. These comprised a linear anomaly in the northern part of the site that is likely to indicate a former footpath and an area of magnetic debris, again in the northern area, that is probably related to a former field boundary shown on 19th century and later maps of the area (Stratascan 2014).

2.2 Project Aims and Objectives

- 2.2.1 The initial objective of the archaeological work was to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition and significance of any surviving remains. More specifically, the trial trenching was required to:
- Test the results of the earlier geophysical survey of the site and prospect for archaeological features of a nature or date that may not respond to magnetic survey;

- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposits, their likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- Establish the suitability of the area for development.

2.2.2 The evaluation was designed to help determine the need for and extent of any mitigation works that may be required, or to inform a design solution to facilitate the preservation in-situ of any threatened remains.

2.2.3 The results of the fieldwork were expected to have the potential to contribute towards an improved understanding of settlement and landuse in the Stour Estuary from prehistory to the present day. In the event that significant discoveries were made the report would seek to identify appropriate research objectives for any future work, in line with those laid out in *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 A total of 37 archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated across the area using a 13 tonne tracked excavator with a toothless bucket. Of these, 13 were part of the original Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2014); the remaining 24 trenches were added on the advice of the Senior Archaeological Officer, Suffolk County Council (SCC) Archaeological Service Conservation Team in order to achieve an approximate 3% sample of the area.
- 3.1.2 All works were carried out in accordance with the WSI (ASE 2014) and the standards and guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2013).
- 3.1.3 The trenches were positioned in order to maximise the area coverage while avoiding buried services and overhead power lines. They were all 30m long and 1.80m wide with the exception of Trench 36 which was shortened by 3m as it impinged on a public footpath. In each case the topsoil was removed down to either archaeological deposits or the natural drift geology.
- 3.1.4 The trenches were accurately located using a Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS). A number of the trenches were scanned prior to excavation using a CAT scanner. The trenches were excavated using a toothless ditching bucket and under constant archaeological supervision.
- 3.1.5 Machine excavation continued to the surface of geological drift deposits. All archaeological features were excavated by hand and recorded in plan and section employing the standard context record sheets used by Archaeology South-East. Up to 50% of each feature was excavated. Finds were bagged in polythene bags according to type and context.
- 3.1.6 All finds recovered from the excavation were washed and marked with an appropriate code to identify the site and context. The ceramic and other building material was identified, counted, weighed and discarded.
- 3.1.7 The SCC Senior Archaeological Officer inspected the trenches prior to backfilling.

3.2 Archive

- 3.2.1 A full archive will be prepared for all work undertaken according to the principles of Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (English Heritage 2006) and the requirements of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Store.
- 3.2.2 Finds from the archaeological recording work will be kept with the archival material. Permission will be sought from the landowner to deposit finds and paper archive at the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Store. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	7
Number of Trench Sheets	37
No. of files/paper record	1 file
Plan and sections sheets	1
Bulk Samples	0
Photographs	117
Bulk finds	1 bag
Registered finds	0
Environmental flots/residue	0

Table 1 Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Trench 21 (Figure 3)

4.1.1 Trench 21 was aligned N-S and situated on the side of the hill close to the western boundary of the site, cutting across the contours. The only feature in the trench was at the south end, where a shallow hollow [21/004] was cut into the natural pale yellow/brown silty clay deposit ([21/002]). It measured 3.30m x 1.70m and was only 0.15m deep with a very gradual break of slope on the base. It was filled with [21/003], which was very similar to the natural substrate but slightly darker and contained fragments and flecks of ceramic building material (cbm), five of which were retained. It also yielded five sherds of pottery, comprising three sherds of Hedingham coarseware and two sherds in a sandy orange ware fabric, which are probably also Hedingham products. The sandy orange fabric is dated from the 13th to mid 14th centuries, a range also spanned by the coarseware.

4.1.2 Initially it was thought to be a linear feature and a slot was excavated across it. However, it proved to have identifiable edges of which only the eastern part extended beyond the limit of the trench. Taken together the dating of the cbm and the pottery suggests a date of the late 13th to mid 14th centuries.

4.1.3 The trench was covered with a 0.30m thick layer of topsoil/ploughsoil [21/001].

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
21/001	Topsoil	Ploughsoil	>30	>1.8	0.27-0.31	12.00(s)- 14.92(n)
21/002	Natural	Silty clay	>30	>1.8	n/a	11.73(s)- 14.61(n)
21/003	Fill	Silty clay + cbm frags	3.30	>1.70	0.15	11.75
21/004	Cut	Shallow hollow	3.30	>1.70	0.15	11.75

Table 2: Trench 21 list of recorded contexts

4.2 Trench 31 (Figure 4)

4.2.1 Trench 31 was aligned NE-SW at the base of the hillside near the southern boundary of the site. Natural deposits [31/002] consisted of a fine mid brown/yellow silty clay with occasional flint pebble inclusions.

4.2.2 Close to the north-eastern end were two intercut linear features running north-south at an angle across the trench. The earliest and largest was a ditch [31/006] measuring 1.20m wide and 0.50m deep, U-shaped in profile and filled with two deposits. The primary fill [31/007] was a mid grey/brown mottled silty material with a high clay content, laid against the west side of the cut, clearly tipped in rather than naturally lain, The secondary fill [31/005] was similar but less clay and with a significant sand content. It also appeared to be a deliberate backfill. No finds were recovered from the fills.

4.2.3 A second ditch [31/004] was cut parallel and along the eastern side of [31/006]. It was shallower at 0.20m deep and filled by a single deposit [31/003] a dark grey/brown clay silt. The fill contained pieces of clear plastic (polythene) and was thus shown to be modern.

4.2.4 The trench was covered by approximately 0.30m of topsoil/ploughsoil [31/001].

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
31/001	Topsoil	Ploughsoil	>30	>1.8	0.26-0.32	4.92 (ne)-4.38 (sw)
31/002	Natural	Silty clay	>30	>1.8	n/a	4.60 (ne)-4.12 (sw)
31/003	Fill	Clay silt + pebbles, plastic	>1.80	1.00	0.20	4.60
31/004	Cut	Linear, n-s ditch	>1.80	1.00	0.20	4.60
31/005	Fill	Clay silt + pebbles	>1.80	1.20	0.45	4.60
31/006	Cut	Linear, n-s ditch	>1.80	1.20	0.50	4.60
31/007	Fill	Clay silt	>1.80	0.60	0.50	4.60

Table 3: Trench 31 list of recorded contexts

4.3 Trenches 1 to 20 inc, 22-30 inc, 32-37 inc.

4.3.1 None of the remaining trenches contained any deposits or features that were not modern and further contexts details for these trenches can be found in Appendix 1. Natural substrate was observed in all trenches with an average of 0.30m of topsoil above. The natural deposits varied from solid clay with varying amounts of gravel and a low percentage of silt at the top of the hill (the northern part of the site) to silts with a moderate percentage of clay at the base of the hill. The material in the trenches at the base of the hill (2, 3, 9–11 inc, 15, 31–36 inc.) was hillwash which had migrated from the hill onto the floodplain to a level between 3m and 6m AOD.

4.3.2 An exception was trench 3 where a layer of redeposited natural had been deliberately laid with a slight bank to the south. It is presumed that this derived from the car park to the south which was terraced flat, the resulting material being dumped on the field in the vicinity of trench 3 in order to level it for farming purposes. Undisturbed natural lay at 0.70m deep in this trench.

4.3.3 A feature was excavated in the south end of Trench 6 at the top of the hill in the north-east of the site. It was dug into the natural clay and backfilled with a similar material to the natural. On excavation it was clearly a modern machine scoop with vertical sides and tooth marks.

4.3.4 Trench 9 was located with its north end cutting into the embankment across the centre of the site. This revealed that the lower field had been terraced into the hillside and the bank created in order to flatten the bottom of the upper field. There was no indication of the date that the work was done, but the

banked material elsewhere along its length contained modern finds on the surface. There is also a modern foul water sewer buried beneath the flatter part of the upper field, suggesting that the terrace might have been constructed when it was inserted.

- 4.3.5 Trench 12 was located in a separate area (Figure 5), in the industrial estate on the south side of Factory Lane. The topsoil was very thin (100-150mm) beneath turf and the natural deposits varied from a brown silt to the north changing to chalky silt further south and orange gravel at the south end.
- 4.3.6 Trench 15 was located in the south-west, partly within an area which had been a house plot separate from the agricultural land. The remains of a demolished brick wall and foundation was discovered here, together with deeper make-up deposits and drainage, all of which were 20th century in origin. In this trench the natural substrate was found at approximately 1.00m deep.
- 4.3.7 Modern land drains were noted in trenches 12, 15 and 37. The example in Trench 37 had been cut deeply into the natural deposits with a surrounding machine-dug shallow cut more than 14m wide designed to guide water into it.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Summary

- 5.1.1 The finds were processed in accordance with IFA guidelines (2013a). Only ten finds were recovered from the site and all derived from a single context, a small hollow in Trench 21.

5.2 Medieval pottery by Helen Walker

- 5.2.1 A total of five sherds weighing 18g were recovered from the single fill of hollow [21/004] (context [21/003]). It has been catalogued according to Cunningham's typology of post-Roman pottery in Essex (Cunningham 1985, 1-16). The pottery comprises three sherds of Hedingham coarseware and two sherds in a sandy orange ware fabric, which are probably also Hedingham products. None of the coarseware is diagnostic and could span the entire period of Hedingham production, from the mid- 12th to mid-14th centuries, but the sandy orange ware fabric is later, belonging to the mid-13th to 14th centuries. Hedingham ware was produced at sites in and around Sible Hedingham in North Essex and is a common find in the southern half of Suffolk to the south of the River Gipping (Walker 2012),

5.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM) by Helen Walker

- 5.3.1 Five pieces of ceramic building material weighing 48g were also recovered from [21/003]. They comprise three fragments of roof tile and two unidentifiable crumbs. At around 12-13mm in thickness, the roof tile is not thick enough to be considered as definitely medieval, but spans the late 13th century to the post-medieval period.

6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

- 6.1.1 The results of the archaeological evaluation are almost entirely negative. Of the thirty-seven trenches excavated only two produced features earlier than the 20th century.
- 6.1.2 Natural geology, generally comprising silty clay of the Thames Group, varied across the site (see 1.2) and lay at 23.50m AOD at the top of the hill to the north, sloping down 3-6m AOD at the base of the hill (Figure 5 a) to 2.26m AOD adjacent to Trench 12 in the industrial estate.
- 6.1.3 Topsoil, lying directly above the natural deposits, consisted of ploughsoil in all but Trench 12. A ploughing depth of approximately 0.30m was encountered in all trenches except trench 12 where the area had been landscaped when the industrial estate was constructed.
- 6.1.4 One medieval feature was excavated in Trench 21. It was a large shallow hollow which yielded finds giving a date range of the late 13th-mid 14th centuries. There was no indication of its function.
- 6.1.5 Two ditches running north-south in Trench 31 were post-medieval. The earlier one was not dated and continues the line of a field boundary both to the north and south of the feature. It is assumed to be post-medieval and probably 19th-century at the earliest, based on its location, alignment and the quality of the fill. It was cut by a later ditch which dated to the later 20th century based on the inclusions of plastic in the fill. The field boundary at this location went out of use when the field was enlarged.
- 6.1.6 Modern features were observed in four trenches including agricultural land drains (Trenches 12, 15 and 37) and a house plot in Trench 15 close to Factory Lane. Modern landscaping was seen in three of the trenches; Trench 9 showed the terracing of the hillside to allow flatter land for ploughing (Figure 5), Trench 3 also revealed terracing and land make-up from the levelling of the car park to the south, and Trench 12 was landscaped when the industrial estate was built (Figure 5).

6.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

- 6.2.1 The evaluation established that archaeological survival across the site is negligible. Of the two trenches which uncovered recordable remains, Trench 21 possessed only one feature of late medieval date and two post-medieval field boundary ditches were found in Trench 31. However, the evaluation proved that ploughing had only affected the site to a depth of c 0.3m over the majority of the study area. Trench 15 in the south-west showed modern truncation to a depth of up to 0.65m.

6.3 Potential impact on archaeological remains

- 6.3.1 There will be little or no impact on archaeological survival from any construction works at the site.

6.4 Consideration of research aims

6.4.1 The highly limited survival of archaeological remains means that the research aims cannot be fully addressed. The evaluation has shown:

- that the previous negative geophysical survey was correct
- the presence of hillwash in those trenches at the base of the hill
- that past landuses are generally not represented apart from modern landscaping
- that there is very limited potential for survival of environmental evidence

6.5 Conclusions

6.5.1 The evaluation has successfully shown that there is only very limited potential for survival of features earlier than the 20th century. It is more likely that there was little pre-modern activity on the site than that evidence for past activity had been completely removed by ploughing.

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Appendix 1: Archaeologically negative trenches including list of recorded contexts

The table below lists the contexts recorded in the archaeologically negative trenches, including modern features.

Trench Number	Context	Type	Description	Deposit Thickness m	Max Height m AOD
1	1/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	6.23
1	1/002	natural	natural light brown silty clay	n/a	5.93
2	2/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	3.96
2	2/002	natural	natural light brown silty clay	n/a	3.66
3	3/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	4.20
3	3/002	layer	mixed sandy silty clay, possibly hill wash	0.40	3.90
3	3/003	natural	natural light brown clay silt	n/a	3.50
4	4/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	9.73
4	4/002	natural	natural light brown silty clay	n/a	9.43
5	5/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.35	17.73
5	5/002	natural	pale yellow clay	n/a	17.38
6	6/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	23.29
6	6/002	natural	light yellow clay with gravel	n/a	22.99
6	6/003	cut	large cut, modern machine scoop	0.40	22.60
6	6/004	fill	fill of 6/003	0.40	22.60
7	7/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	19.54
7	7/002	natural	natural light brown sandy silt (s end of trench)	n/a	15.51
7	7/003	natural	natural mid red/brown silty gravel (n end of trench)	n/a	19.24
8	8/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.25	14.45
8	8/002	natural	pale yellow clay	n/a	14.20
9	9/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	4.12
9	9/002	layer	mid brown clay silt forming bank at n end of trench	0.90 (n end)	3.22
9	9/003	natural	natural light brown sandy clay silt (s end of trench)	n/a	3.05
10	10/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	4.85
10	10/002	natural	natural light brown sandy clay silt with pebbles	n/a	4.55
11	11/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	4.57
11	11/002	natural	natural light brown sandy clay silt with fine pebbles	n/a	4.27
12	12/001	topsoil	Thin garden soil, clearly imported to the location	100-150mm	2.26
12	12/002	natural	several bands of natural silts, chalk, gravel, sand	n/a	2.09

Trench Number	Context	Type	Description	Deposit Thickness m	Max Height m AOD
12	12/003	cut	cut for modern land drain or other service 0.6m wide	not exc	2.06
12	12/004	fill	fill of 12/003	not exc	2.06
13	13/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	6.86
13	13/002	natural	natural light brown clay silt	n/a	6.56
14	14/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	5.45
14	14/002	natural	natural light brown clay silt	n/a	5.15
15	15/001	topsoil	plough soil (n end), garden soil (centre and s end)	0.15-0.30	3.63
15	15/002	layer	brick rubble, modern destruction deposit	0.30	3.45
15	15/003	wall	brick wall foundation of destroyed modern building	0.30	3.48
15	15/004	layer	mixed grey/brown silty clay, make-up for building work?	0.35	3.33
15	15/005	natural	natural pale yellow/brown silty clay	n/a	2.75
15	15/006	fill	brick and stone fill of land drain (not exc, cut not seen)	not exc	3.19
16	16/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	16.91
16	16/002	natural	natural pale yellow clay	n/a	16.61
17	17/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	20.22
17	17/002	natural	natural pale yellow clay with gravel patches	n/a	19.92
18	18/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.29	22.41
18	18/002	natural	natural pale yellow orangey clay with gravel patches	n/a	22.12
19	19/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.33	20.60
19	19/002	natural	natural mid orange clay with gravel, siltier to s	n/a	20.27
20	20/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.34	17.42
20	20/002	natural	natural pale yellow silty clay	n/a	17.08
22	22/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.33	14.25
22	22/002	natural	natural pale yellow/brown silty clay with pebbles	n/a	13.92
23	23/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	15.57
23	23/002	natural	natural pale yellow/brown silty clay with pebbles	n/a	15.27
24	24/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.32	8.37
24	24/002	natural	natural pale brown sandy clay silt with pebbles, hill wash?	n/a	8.05
25	25/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	10.16
25	25/002	natural	orange/brown clay silt (n) fading to pale brown silt (s)	n/a	9.86
26	26/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.29	19.04
26	26/002	natural	pale yellow clay with pebbles fading to orange/brown silt to s	n/a	18.75
27	27/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.26	19.59

Trench Number	Context	Type	Description	Deposit Thickness m	Max Height m AOD
27	27/002	natural	natural mixed sandy silty clay (n) to firm yellow clay and gravel (s)	n/a	19.33
28	28/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.32	14.16
28	28/002	natural	pale yellow/brown silty clay, browner to s, hillwash	n/a	14.84
29	29/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.32	10.55
29	29/002	natural	natural mid-light brown clay silt, gravel patches	n/a	10.23
30	30/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	10.95
30	30/002	natural	natural mid-light brown clay silt, gravel patches, more clay to w	n/a	10.65
32	32/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.32	5.29
32	32/002	natural	natural light brown silt with clay, pebbles. Hillwash?	n/a	4.97
33	33/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.36	4.57
33	33/002	natural	natural light brown silt with clay, pebbles. Hillwash?	n/a	4.21
34	34/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	4.24
34	34/002	natural	natural light brown silt with clay, pebbles. Hillwash?	n/a	3.94
35	35/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	4.36
35	35/002	natural	mid-light brown fine silt with pebbles, hillwash?	n/a	4.06
36	36/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.35	4.59
36	36/002	natural	mid brown sandy silt with clay and freq chalk flecks to s	n/a	4.24
37	37/001	topsoil	plough soil	0.30	6.95
37	37/002	fill	modern fill of large hollow covering n end of trench, inc land drain	0.38	6.60
37	37/003	cut	large cut containing modern fill and a land drain, backfilled pond?	0.38	6.60 base 6.22
37	37/004	natural	mid-light brown fine silt with pebbles, hillwash?	n/a	6.65

Table 4: Archaeologically negative trenches: list of recorded contexts

HER Summary Form

Site Code	BNT069					
Identification Name and Address	Factory Lane, Brantham					
County, District &/or Borough	Suffolk					
OS Grid Refs.	TM 10526 33104					
Geology	silty clay of the Thames Group					
Arch. South-East Project Number	2014363					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 6/10/14 – 15/10/14	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs Consulting					
Project Manager	Adrian Scruby					
Project Supervisor	Robin Wroe-Brown					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other Modern		
<p>Summary</p> <p>Thirty-seven trenches were excavated by machine down to the natural deposits. Topsoil, in all cases but one consisting of ploughsoil, was approximately 0.30m thick. The exception was a trench within the industrial estate which showed evidence of landscaping. Topsoil was only 100-150mm thick in this area.</p> <p>Archaeological features were recorded in only two trenches, with a further six containing modern features and deposits. A large shallow hollow was recorded in Trench 21 to the north-west of the site, which yielded finds from the late 13th- mid 14th centuries. A post-medieval field boundary was recorded in Trench 31 close to the south side of the site, which aligned with an existing field boundary.</p>						

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-194764

Project details

Project name	Land adjacent to Factory Lane, Brantham, Suffolk
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to Factory Lane, Brantham, Suffolk. At the time the evaluation was conducted almost all of the land consisted of ploughed fields apart from a small area within the industrial estate to the south. Thirty-seven trenches were excavated by machine down to the natural deposits. Topsoil, in all cases but one consisting of ploughsoil, was approximately 0.30m thick. The exception was a trench within the industrial estate which showed evidence of landscaping. Topsoil was only 100-150mm thick in this area. Of these, archaeological features were recorded in only two trenches, with a further six containing modern features and deposits. A large shallow hollow was recorded in Trench 21 to the north-west of the site, which yielded finds from the late 13th- mid 14th centuries. A post-medieval field boundary was recorded in Trench 31 close to the south side of the site, which aligned with an existing field boundary.
Project dates	Start: 06-10-2014 End: 15-10-2014
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	BNT069 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 1 - Industrial
Monument type	FIELD Medieval
Monument type	FIELD SYSTEM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CONTAINER Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH BRANTHAM Land adjacent to Factory Lane Brantham
Postcode	CO11 1QY
Study area	8.50 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 10526 33104 51.9559673915 1.06428207402 51 57 21 N 001 03 51 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 2.26m Max: 23.50m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Adrian Scruby
Project supervisor	Robin Wroe-Brown
Type of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Plan", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title An Archaeological Evaluation at land Adjacent to Factory Lane,
Brantham, Suffolk

Author(s)/Editor(s) Wroe-Brown, R

Other bibliographic
details ASE Report No: 2014363

Date 2014

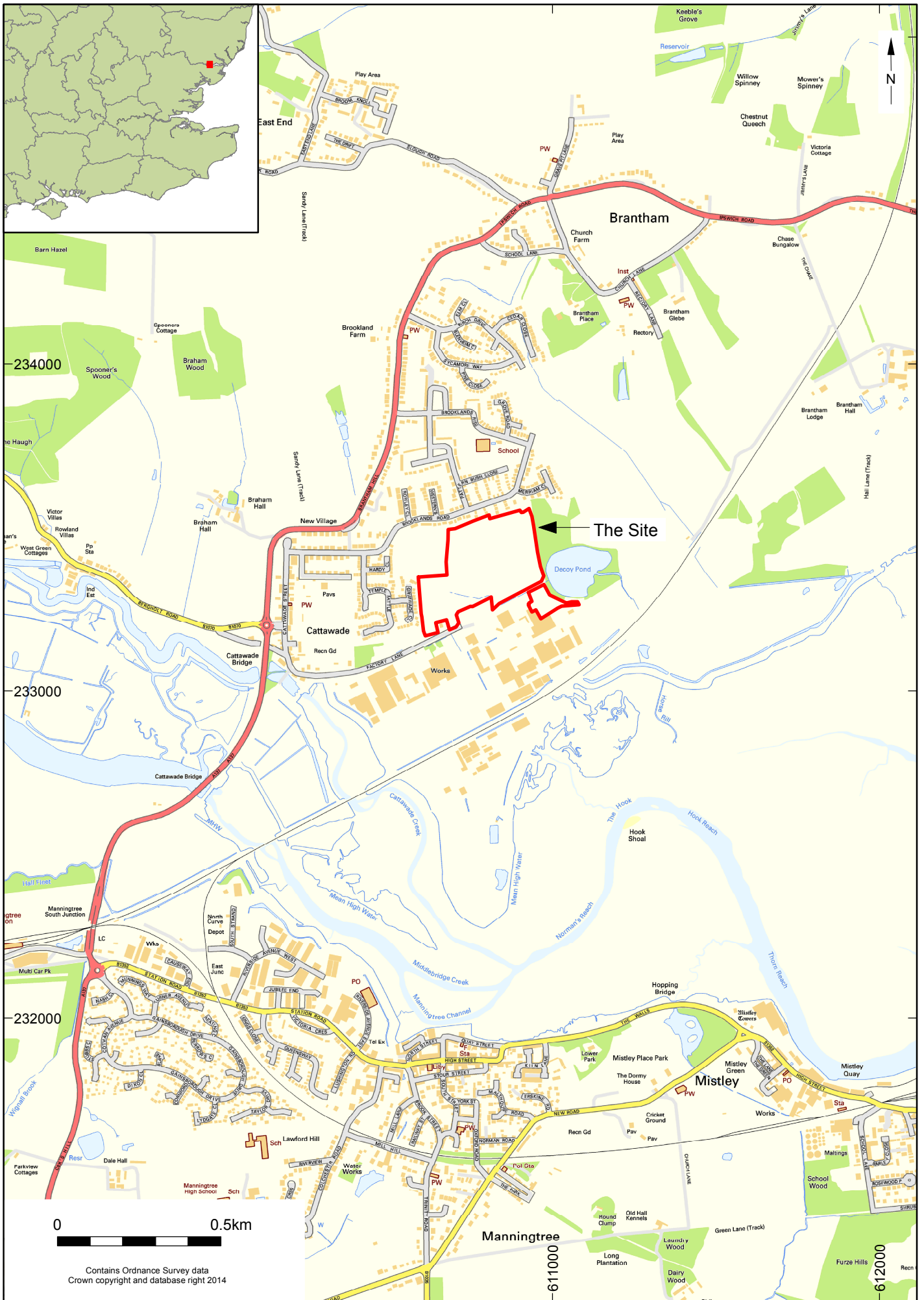
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Place of issue or
publication Braintree

Description A4 report

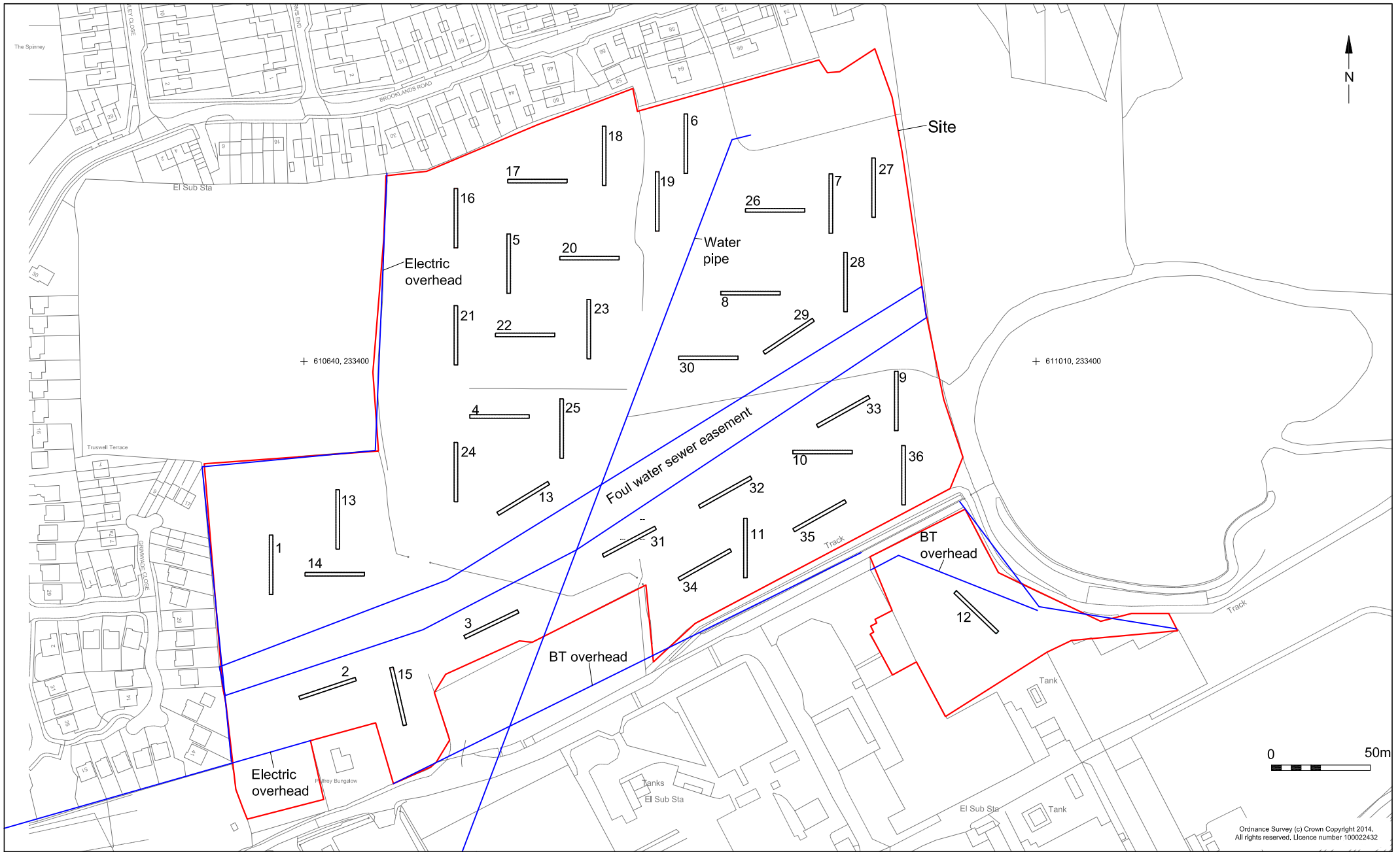
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Entered on 11 November 2014



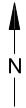
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Project Ref: 8262	Nov 2014	Site location		
Report Ref: 2014363	Drawn by: APL			



© Archaeology South-East		Land adjacent to Factory Lane, Brantham, Suffolk	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 8262	Nov 2014	Location of evaluation trenches and service constraints	
Report Ref: 2014363	Drawn by: APL		

+ 610720, 233420



Trench 21

21/004

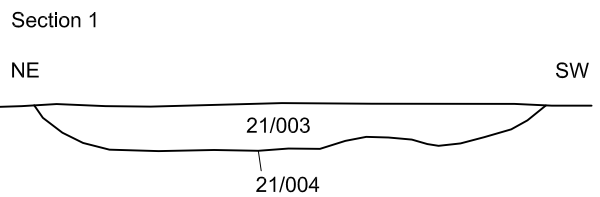
Section 1



+ 610720, 233400



Section 1, looking north



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Land adjacent to Factory Lane, Brantham, Suffolk

Project Ref: 8262

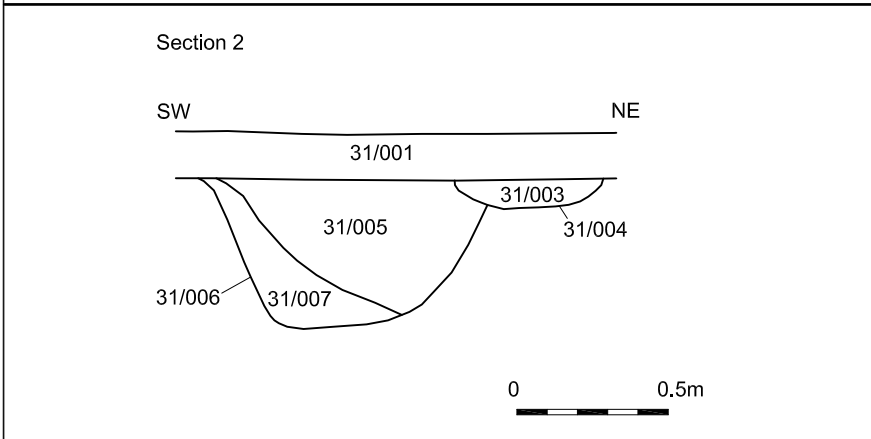
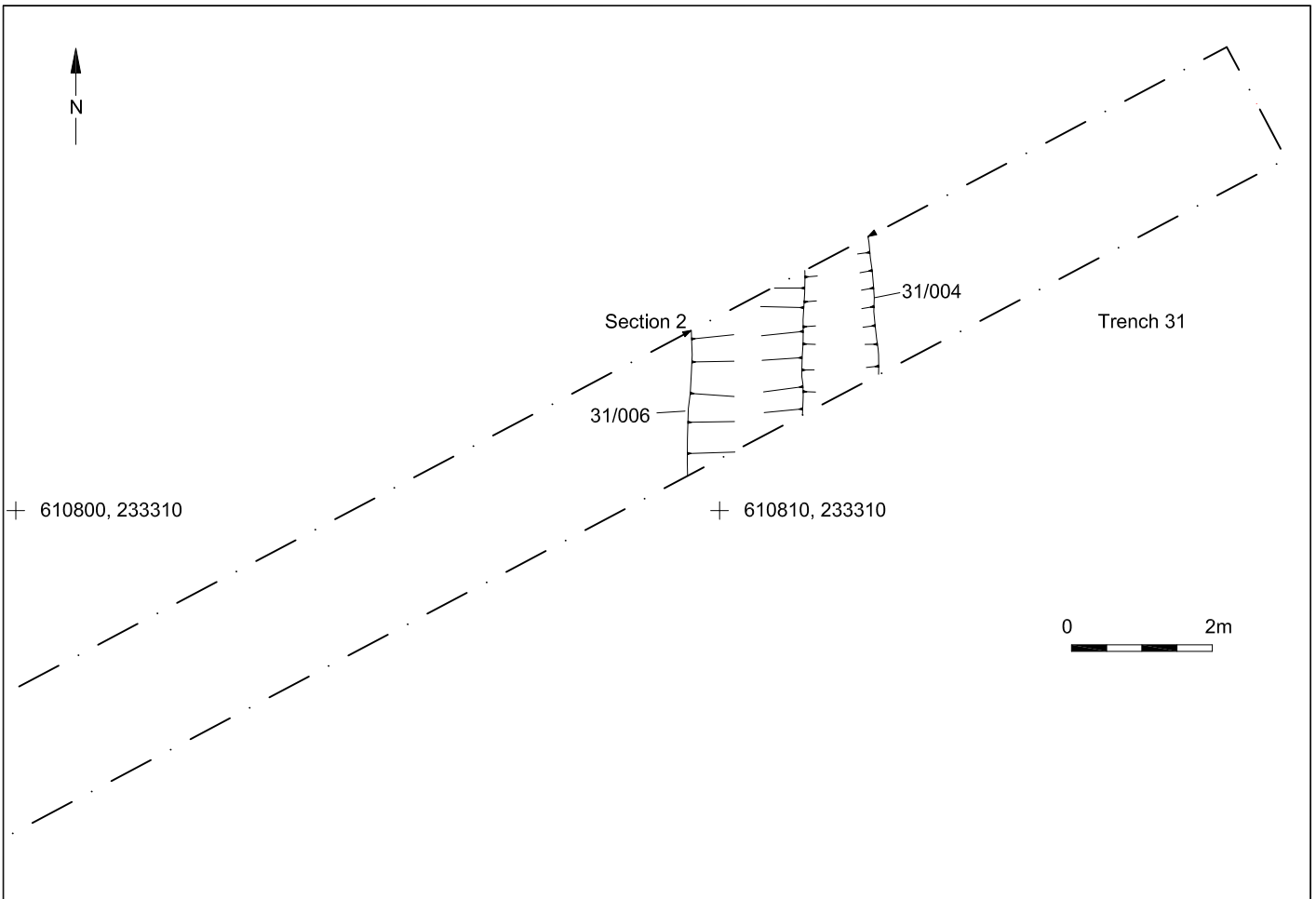
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Trench 21

Fig. 3



Section 2 looking north

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Project Ref: 8262	Nov 2014	Trench 31	
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The site topography, looking NE, trench 3 in the foreground



Looking east along the bank, showing the terracing



East side of the site looking NW, showing the bank



Trench 12 location, looking south

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Project Ref: 8262	Nov 2014	Selected site photographs	
Report Ref: 2014363	Drawn by: APL		

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