

**Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill)  
Quayside  
Woodbridge  
Suffolk**

**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

**ASE Project No: 8322  
Site Code: WBG 098**

**ASE Report No: 2015188**



**June 2015**

**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

**Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill)  
Quayside  
Woodbridge  
Suffolk**

**NGR: TM 27500 48880**

**Planning Ref: C13/0767/FUL**

**ASE Project No: 8322  
Site Code: WBG 098**

**ASE Report No: 2015188  
OASIS ID: archaeol6-212388**

**Author: Kieron Heard**

**With contributions by Trista Clifford, Karine Le Hégarat  
& Helen Walker**

<b>Prepared by:</b>	Kieron Heard	Senior Archaeologist	
<b>Reviewed and approved by:</b>	Adrian Scruby	Project Manager	
<b>Date of Issue:</b>	June 2015		
<b>Revision:</b>			

**Archaeology South-East  
The Old Magistrates Court  
79 South Street  
Braintree  
Essex  
CM7 3YQ**

**Tel: 01376 331470  
Email: [fau@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:fau@ucl.ac.uk)  
Web: [www.archaeologyse.co.uk](http://www.archaeologyse.co.uk)**

## **Abstract**

*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 conduct an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill), Quayside, Woodbridge, Suffolk. The evaluation was carried out in advance of a proposed residential development. Three evaluation trenches were excavated, covering an area of 86m<sup>2</sup> and representing approximately 4.8% of the total area of the 1800m<sup>2</sup> site.*

*The site was located on gently sloping ground in the south-eastern part of the town, close to the River Deben. The natural stratum was River Terrace Sand and Gravel.*

*Possible occupation of the site in the prehistoric period was represented by a pit containing small amounts of struck flint, heat-altered flint and fired clay.*

*Several postholes and a pit are likely to have been of early medieval date, although their significance is unclear. They were sealed by a sequence of modified soil horizons representing probable cultivation in the medieval and post-medieval periods.*

*The first significant development of the site occurred in the 19th century, with the construction of a corn mill. Some of the brick foundations of this building and adjacent houses were recorded, truncating earlier deposits.*

*Redevelopment of the site in the 1960s resulted in extensive additional destruction through the construction of concrete strip foundations and stanchion bases, and the insertion of services.*

*Although the evaluation has had positive results it is clear from the extent of post-medieval and modern disturbance that the proposed residential development has limited potential to adversely affect heritage assets on this site. It is considered unlikely therefore that further archaeological mitigation will be required in relation to the current planning application.*

## CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Archaeological Background**
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology**
- 4.0 Results**
- 5.0 The Finds**
- 6.0 Discussion and Conclusions**

**Bibliography**  
**Acknowledgements**

**Appendix 1: Digital image catalogue**

**HER Summary**  
**OASIS Form**

### **Tables**

- Table 1: Quantification of the fieldwork archive
- Table 2: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 1
- Table 3: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 2
- Table 4: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 3
- Table 5: Finds quantification
- Table 6: Quantification of the finds archive

### **Figures**

- Cover image: Excavation of a possible prehistoric pit in Trench 1
- Figure 1: Site location
- Figure 2: Trench locations
- Figure 3: Trenches 1, 2 and 3
- Figure 4: Sections
- Figure 5: Selected photographs

## **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 conduct an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill), Quayside, Woodbridge, Suffolk (Figure 1).
- 1.1.2 The evaluation was carried out in advance of a proposed residential development.
- 1.1.3 The site is located at National Grid Reference TM 27500 48882 and encompasses an area of approximately 1800m<sup>2</sup>.

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

- 1.2.1 The geology of the site is mapped by the British Geological Survey (BGS, 2015) as silty clay/mudstone, of the Thames Group. This is overlaid by superficial deposits of River Terrace Sand and Gravel.
- 1.2.2 Woodbridge is located on the west bank of the River Deben. The site is on gently sloping ground on the south-east side of the town, close to the waterfront. Ground level falls from approximately 4m OD in the north-western part of the site to 3m OD on the south-eastern street frontage.
- 1.2.3 The site is bounded by Crown Place to the south-west, by Quayside to the south-east, by Doric Place to the north-east and by houses and gardens to the north-west.

### **1.3 Planning Background**

- 1.3.1 The evaluation was carried out in relation to a planning application (C13/0767/FUL) for a residential development and was requested by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT), who provide planning advice to the local authority, Suffolk Coastal District Council. The archaeological work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs, 2015) that had been approved by Dr Abby Antrobus of SCCAS/CT.

### **1.4 Scope of the Report**

- 1.4.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation on Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill), Quayside, Woodbridge, Suffolk, carried out on 14th–15th May 2015.
- 1.4.2 The report describes and interprets the results of the evaluation, and assesses the potential for the survival of archaeological remains on the site. The likely impact of the proposed development of the site is considered.

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

- 2.1.1 The archaeological background to the site has been described in the WSI (CgMs, 2015) and in a Heritage Statement (Heritage Collective, 2013) and need not be repeated in detail here.
- 2.1.2 In summary, assessment of the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER) suggested that the site had uncertain, but probably moderate, potential to contain archaeological remains of prehistoric, Roman or Anglo-Saxon date – this being a generalised potential for the Woodbridge area since no significant remains of those periods are recorded within at least a 300m radius of the site.
- 2.1.3 The site is within the mapped extent of the medieval and post-medieval town (HER ref: WBG 070), close to the river and just above the low-lying, marshy floodplain; it was considered therefore to have moderate potential to contain archaeological remains relating to waterfront activities of a commercial or industrial nature.

### **2.2 Post-medieval development of the site**

- 2.2.1 The Heritage Statement (Heritage Collective, 2013) described the development of the site during the post-medieval period, from cartographic and documentary sources, and this can be summarised as follows:
- 2.2.2 Maps of 1827 and 1841 show the site as undeveloped.
- 2.2.3 The First Edition Ordnance Survey map of c. 1881 shows a large building labelled *Corn Mill* in the south-western half of the site. This three-storey building can be seen in subsequent photographs of the site, until it was gutted by fire in 1963. After the fire the shell of the 19th-century building was incorporated into a new building known as Nunn's Mill, owned by Nunn's Corn and Coal Company Ltd.
- 2.2.4 A pair of abutting buildings shown on the 1881 Ordnance Survey map in the north-eastern half of the site can be seen in subsequent photographs as semi-detached dwellings. These survived the 1963 fire but were demolished as part of the Nunn's Mill development or during a later extension of that building.

### **2.4 Aims of the project**

- 2.4.1 The aims of the project, as described in the WSI (CgMs, 2015), were as follows:
- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development site
  - To assess the artefactual and environmental potential of the archaeological deposits encountered

- To provide further information on the archaeological potential of the site to enable the archaeological implications of the proposed development to be assessed
- To assess the impact of previous land use on the site
- To inform formulation of a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains
- To produce a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Historic Environment Record

### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Fieldwork Methodology**

3.1.1 The archaeological evaluation took place between 14th and 15th May 2015 and was conducted broadly in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs, 2015) and Method Statement (ASE, 2015).

3.1.2 Three evaluation trenches (numbered 1–3) were excavated under archaeological supervision using a tracked 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide ditching bucket (Figure 2). There were some alterations to the trench layout proposed in the WSI, and these were approved verbally by Dr Abby Antrobus of SCCAS/CT:

- The proposed 30m trench along the south-western boundary of the site (numbered Trench 1 in the WSI and Trench 3 in this report) was shortened because of the density of concrete/masonry obstructions in that area of the site
- The proposed 30m trench parallel with the Quayside street frontage (Trench 2) was shortened due to the presence of live services in that area of the site
- An additional trench (Trench 1 in this report) was excavated in the north-eastern part of the site, where there were fewer obstructions

3.1.3 The three evaluation trenches had a combined area of 86m<sup>2</sup>, representing approximately 4.8% of the total area of the 1800m<sup>2</sup> site.

3.1.4 The trenches were generally machine-excavated to the surface of the natural stratum, which was up to 0.85m below current ground level in the south-eastern part of the site.

3.1.5 Archaeological features, soil horizons and the natural stratum were recorded using a unique sequence of context numbers in the range 001–027. Planning was done mainly by GPS, supplemented by hand-drawn plans where the GPS could not be used. Selected sections were drawn (at 1:10) on 290mm x 320mm sheets of gridded drawing film. The drawn sections were located by GPS. Written records (context descriptions) were made on *pro forma* context recording sheets.

3.1.6 A digital photographic record was made, consisting of high-resolution .jpg images.

### 3.2 Fieldwork Archive

3.2.1 The fieldwork archive is currently held at the Braintree offices of ASE and will be deposited with the Suffolk County Council Historic Environment Record office in due course. The nature and contents of the archive are described in Table 1.

Description	Number	Type
Context sheets	27	A4 paper
Context register	1	A4 paper
Plan sheets	2	290mm x 320mm permatrace
Section sheets	3	290mm x 320mm permatrace
Digital images	24	High resolution JPG images

Table 1: Quantification of the fieldwork archive

## 4.0 RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Archaeological and modern deposits and features were recorded in all three evaluation trenches and these are described below (4.3 to 4.6). Otherwise the evaluation revealed a straightforward sequence of natural river terrace deposits, subsoil and topsoil (4.2).

### 4.2 General deposit descriptions

#### *Natural stratum [006]*

4.2.1 The natural stratum was river terrace deposits, described generally as loose, light yellowish brown sand and gravel (50:50), becoming sandier in localised areas.

#### *Subsoil [005]*

4.2.2 In all three trenches natural sand and gravel [006] was overlaid by a layer of subsoil. This was soft, mid brown slightly silty sand containing occasional pebbles, small fragments of Anglo-Saxon and early medieval pottery and fragments of post-medieval roof tile (possibly intrusive). The layer varied in thickness from 0.20m at the north-west end of Trench 1 to 0.50m at the south-east end of Trench 1. Subsoil [005] had an indistinct interface with underlying natural sand and gravel [006].

4.2.3 Subsoil [005] was mostly excavated by machine, but a representative area of approximately 2.0m x 1.8m in Trench 1 was excavated by hand for finds recovery.

#### *Topsoil [004]*

4.2.4 In Trenches 1 and 2 subsoil [005] was sealed by a layer of topsoil. This was soft, dark brownish grey silty sand containing occasional pebbles, one small fragment of early medieval pottery and some fragments of post-medieval roof



tile and brick. The deposit varied in thickness from 0.10m at the north-west end of Trench 1 (where it was possibly truncated) to 0.25m near the south-east end of Trench 1. Topsoil [004] had an indistinct interface with underlying subsoil [005].

*Recent demolition layer [003]*

4.2.5 A layer of brick and concrete rubble, 50mm to 0.50m thick, extended site-wide and formed the current ground surface.

**4.3 Trench 1**

*Dimensions: 33.30m x 1.80m x up to 0.90m deep*

*Ground level: 3.06m OD (NW), 2.70m OD (SE)*

*Figures: 3, 4 & 5*

Context	Type	Description	Depth BGL	Location
001	Fill	Fill of pit 002	0.55m–1.00m	NW half of trench
002	Cut	Pit	0.55m–1.00m	NW half of trench
003	Layer	Recent demolition	0.00m	Trench-wide
004	Layer	Topsoil	50mm (NW) – 0.20m (SE)	Trench-wide
005	Layer	Subsoil	0.15m (NW) – 0.40m (SE)	Trench-wide
006	Deposit	Natural stratum	0.40m (NW) – 0.85m (SE)	Trench-wide
007	Fill	Fill of posthole 008	0.70m–0.91m	Centre of trench
008	Cut	Posthole	0.70m–0.91m	Centre of trench
009	Masonry	Brick foundation	0.23m–0.40m	Centre of trench
010	Cut	Trench for foundation	0.23m–0.40m	Centre of trench
011	Layer	Demolition rubble	0.00m	Centre of trench
012	Layer/fill	Demolition debris	0.15m	Centre of trench
013	Fill	Fill of posthole 013	0.85m–1.13m	S end of trench
014	Cut	Posthole	0.85m–1.13m	S end of trench
015	Fill	Fill of posthole 016	0.85m–1.08m	S end of trench
016	Cut	Posthole	0.85m–1.08m	S end of trench
017	Fill	Fill of posthole 018	0.85m–1.08m	S end of trench
018	Cut	Posthole	0.85m–1.08m	S end of trench
019	Fill	Fill of posthole 020	0.85m–1.08m	S end of trench
020	Cut	Posthole	0.85m–1.08m	S half of trench
021	Masonry	Brick foundation	0.10m–0.60m	S half of trench
022	Cut	Trench for foundation	0.10m–0.60m	S half of trench
023	Fill	Fill of pit 024	1.00m–1.20m	S half of trench
024	Cut	Pit	1.00m–1.10m	S half of trench
025	Fill	Construction backfill	0.10m–0.60m	S half of trench

Table 2: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 1

4.3.1 Pit [002] was sub circular measuring 1.15m wide x 0.42m deep, with a bowl-shaped profile (Figure 5, photograph). It was recognised below subsoil [005], cutting the natural stratum [006]. Its fill [001] was mid reddish brown silty sand containing occasional small fragments of worked flint, heat-altered flint and fired clay. A single, small fragment of post-medieval roof tile is considered to have been intrusive, since pit [002] was truncated partially by a modern posthole (not recorded archaeologically).

4.3.2 An isolated posthole [008] in the centre of the trench was sub circular, measuring up to 0.40m wide x 0.21m deep with steep sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill [007] of soft, mid reddish brown silty sand with

occasional pebbles but no finds.

- 4.3.3 An irregular row of four postholes ([014], [016], [018] & [020]) at the south-east end of the trench were recognised below subsoil [005], cutting the natural stratum [006] (Figures 3 & 5, photographs). It is likely that the postholes were broadly contemporary although it is unclear if they represented part of a single structure.
- 4.3.4 The postholes were circular or oval in plan with steep sides and concave bases, and measured up to 0.66m wide x 0.28m deep. They contained similar fills of soft, mid reddish brown silty sand with occasional pebbles. The only artefact recovered was a small fragment of early medieval pottery from fill [015] of posthole [016].
- 4.3.5 Pit [024] was sealed by subsoil [005]. It was oval, measuring 2.80m long x up to 1.00m wide with steep but irregular sides and an undulating base; generally the edges of the pit were poorly defined. It contained a single fill of mid brownish grey silty sand with frequent pebbles but no finds.
- 4.3.6 Foundation [021] was oriented south-west to north-east and was constructed of red bricks (230mm x 110mm x 70mm) bonded with hard, off-white lime mortar. The foundation was generally 0.38m wide and built of alternate header/stretcher courses. The lowest two courses were corbelled, to a maximum width of 0.62m. The surviving depth of the foundation was 0.50m. Construction trench [022] was dug through topsoil layer [004], to the surface of subsoil [005]. The construction trench was backfilled with soil [025].
- 4.3.7 Foundation [021] supported the south-eastern (front) elevation of a pair of semi-detached dwellings, as shown on 19th- and 20th-century maps and photographs (2.2.4).
- 4.3.8 L-shaped foundation [009] was constructed of red bricks (230mm x 110mm x 70mm) bonded with hard, off-white lime mortar (Figure 5, photographs). It was stretcher-built and survived to a depth of only 0.16m (two courses). Construction trench [010] was dug through topsoil layer [004], to the surface of subsoil [005].
- 4.3.9 Foundation [009] supported some of the internal walls of a 19th-century dwelling (see above, 4.3.7).
- 4.3.10 Foundations [009] and [021] were sealed by a layer of crushed brick [011], up to 0.20m thick, representing the demolition of those 19th-century dwellings in the 1960s. [012] was a localised deposit of soil overlying demolished foundation [009].
- 4.3.11 A modern, concrete-encased sewer defined part of the north-eastern edge of Trench 1, cutting through all earlier deposits (Figure 5, Section 2.2). Other modern services were noted throughout the trench but were not recorded archaeologically. Similarly, there were some concrete foundations and stanchion bases in the centre of the trench that clearly belonged to the 1960s Nunn's Mill building.

#### 4.4 Trench 2

*Dimensions: 10.50m x 1.80m x up to 1.10m deep*

*Ground level: 3.10m OD (SW), 2.70m OD (NE)*

*Figures: 3, 4 & 5*

Context	Type	Description	Depth BGL	Location
003	Layer	Recent demolition	0.00m	Trench-wide
004	Layer	Topsoil	0.20m (NE) – 0.55m (SW)	Trench-wide
005	Layer	Subsoil	0.40m (NE) – 0.65m (SW)	Trench-wide
006	Deposit	Natural stratum	0.85m (NE) – 0.95m (SW)	Trench-wide

Table 3: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 2

4.4.1 The only intrusive features in Trench 2 were some modern services (gas and water pipes) running across the centre of the trench; these were not recorded archaeologically.

4.4.2 At the south-west end of Trench 2 subsoil [005] and natural stratum [006] were stained a bluish grey colour, possibly by hydrocarbon contamination.

#### 4.5 Trench 3

*Dimensions: 4.10m x 1.80m x up to 0.80m deep*

*Ground level: approximately 3.0m OD*

*Figures: 3, 4 & 5*

Context	Type	Description	Depth BGL	Location
003	Layer	Recent demolition	0.00m	Trench-wide
005	Layer	Subsoil	0.40m	Trench-wide
006	Deposit	Natural stratum	0.80m	Trench-wide
026	Masonry	Brick foundation	0.00m→0.80m	SW edge of trench
027	Masonry	Brick foundation	0.00m→0.80m	NE edge of trench

Table 4: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 3

4.5.1 Foundation [026] was of modern brick construction on a concrete base, up to 0.33m wide and greater than 0.80m deep. It was clearly the foundation for the south-west wall of the 1960s Nunn's Mill building.

4.5.2 Foundation [027] was constructed of red bricks (230mm x 110mm x 70mm) laid in alternate header/stretcher courses and bonded with hard, off-white mortar. The lower part of the foundation was of corbelled construction, with a maximum width of 0.47m and the foundation had an overall depth greater than 0.80m. This was the foundation for the south-west wall of the 19th-century corn mill building, which was destroyed by fire in the 1960s.

4.5.3 The space between foundations [026] and [027] was occupied by a row of large concrete stanchion bases (not recorded archaeologically); it is unclear if these were part of the 1960s building or represented a 20th-century modification of the Victorian corn mill.

## 5.0 THE FINDS

### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered. Finds were all washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and bagged by material and context (Table 5). Finds were all packed and stored according to CiFA guidelines (Table 6; 2014). None require further conservation.

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Flint	Wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	Fired Clay	Wt (g)
001			1	2	2	6	2	24	4	44
004	1	12	6	154						
005	6	108	5	42	1	2				
015	1	14								
<i>Totals</i>	8	134	12	198	3	8	2	24	4	44

Table 5: Finds quantification

Finds	Quantity
Bulk finds boxes (450mm x 240mm x 220mm)	0.10

Table 6: Quantification of the finds archive

### 5.2 The Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 Three pieces of struck flint weighing 8g were recovered. The small assemblage consists of three flakes. Two came from fill [001] of pit [002] and one from subsoil [005]. They were made from a mid to dark grey flint likely to derive from gravel deposits. The flakes are relatively fresh. They are not chronologically distinctive, but based on technological grounds they probably predate the Middle Bronze Age.

### 5.3 The Pottery by Helen Walker

5.3.1 A small amount of pottery, eight sherds weighing 132g, was recovered from three contexts and has been catalogued according to Cunningham's typology of post-Roman pottery in Essex (Cunningham 1985, 1–16).

5.3.2 The earliest pottery is a body sherd of Mid-Saxon Ipswich-type ware from subsoil [005], in the fine, smooth version of this ware. It shows rilled surfaces and is almost certainly from a jar, the most numerous vessel form in Ipswich-type ware, which dates from the mid-7th to mid-9th centuries.

5.3.4 Also from subsoil [005] are body sherds of shell-and-sand-tempered ware and two rims in the contemporary early medieval ware, both almost certainly from cooking-pots. One has a thickened everted rim, which could span the entire period of production of early medieval ware, from the 10th/11th to early 13th centuries. The second however, shows a beaded rim and is likely to date to the 12th or perhaps the early 13th century. These sherds therefore post-date the Ipswich-type ware, which is noticeably more abraded than the other sherds and is probably residual.

5.3.5 In addition to this material, there is a sherd with a fine red-brown sandy fabric, perhaps a product of the Fore Street kilns at Ipswich, which is later still and

may date to the 13th century.

- 5.3.3 A single sherd was recovered from topsoil layer [004], comprising an early medieval ware thickened everted rim showing fire-blackening around the outer edge, which is probably from the same vessel as found in subsoil [005]. Context [015], the fill of post hole [016], also produced a body sherd of early medieval ware.

#### **5.4 The Ceramic Building Material** by Trista Clifford

- 5.4.1 A small assemblage of twelve abraded fragments weighing 198g was recovered from three contexts. Topsoil [004] produced a tiny fragment of brick in an abundantly sandy fabric with sparse black speckle. Roof tile in similarly sandy fabrics was recovered from fill [001] of pit [002], topsoil [004] and subsoil [005]. None are particularly diagnostic of date but a post-medieval date is most likely.

- 5.4.2 The assemblage has been recorded for the site archive. It has little potential for further work and is recommended for discard.

#### **5.5 The Fired Clay** by Trista Clifford

- 5.5.1 Four fragments of fired clay weighing 44g were recovered from fill [001] of fill [002]. The assemblage is very abraded and formed from a fairly sandy clay fabric with sparse coarse pebbles. One fragment exhibits a flat surface; however the assemblage is undiagnostic of form, function or date. It has no potential for further analysis and is recommended for discard.

## **6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

### **6.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence**

- 6.1.1 The fieldwork identified a sequence of natural and modified soil horizons, a possible prehistoric pit, some probable medieval postholes and some brick foundations of 19th-century buildings.

### **6.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts**

- 6.2.1 The possible prehistoric pit and probable medieval features in Trench 1 were recognised below subsoil layer [005], cutting the natural stratum [006]. Consequently they were well preserved by overlying soil horizons with a combined thickness of between 0.55m and 0.95m.
- 6.2.2 It is possible that similar deposits and features will survive elsewhere on the site, although the degree of preservation will vary according to the extent of post-medieval and modern disturbance.
- 6.2.3 There was intensive development of the site in the 19th- and 20th centuries, causing considerable destruction of earlier deposits through the construction of building foundations and the installation of services; in the central and northern parts of the site (not investigated archaeologically) there was also much disturbance by the insertion of below ground silos and probable fuel

storage tanks.

- 6.2.4 Modern disturbance was particularly intense in the south-western half of the site (in the vicinity of Trench 3), due to 19th- and 20th-century strip foundations and a series of large and closely spaced concrete stanchion bases, such as those shown on Figure 3.

### **6.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period**

#### *Possible prehistoric feature*

- 6.3.1 The presence of struck flints, heat-altered flint and fired clay in the fill of pit [002] suggest that that it was of prehistoric date; however, the quantities are small and the material might have been residual.
- 6.3.2 Although there is currently little evidence for prehistoric activity in the Woodbridge area, the discovery of a possible prehistoric pit at this site is not surprising given the site's favourable location on dry ground overlooking marshland and river.

#### *Probable medieval features and deposits*

- 6.3.3 Five postholes in Trench 1 were of unknown date although one of them did contain a sherd of early medieval pottery; it is reasonable to assume (particularly due to the depths at which these features were found) that they were all of medieval date.
- 6.3.4 It seems likely that the postholes were broadly contemporary but their function is unknown and they need not have belonged to the same building or structure.
- 6.3.5 An elongated pit [024] of unknown function in the same area of the site was undated but might have been broadly contemporary with the postholes, if not earlier (prehistoric?).

#### *Post-medieval soil horizons*

- 6.3.6 The probable medieval features were all sealed by subsoil layer [005] which contained a small quantity of medieval pottery but also produced a few fragments of post-medieval roof tile. This deposit is assumed to have been a naturally formed subsoil, but the presence within it of cultural material shows that it had been modified, perhaps by farming or horticulture.
- 6.3.7 Topsoil layer [004] produced a sherd of medieval pottery and a small amount of post-medieval brick and roof tile. It represented the continued use of the site as an open space until its development in the 19th century, as shown by the cartographic evidence.

#### *19th-century building remains*

- 6.3.8 Significant development of the site began in the second half of the 19th century with the construction of a three-storey corn mill. The deep and substantial foundation [027] for the west wall of this building was seen in Trench 3, extending to below the surface of the river terrace gravels [006].

6.3.9 A pair of semi-detached, two-storey houses were built next to the corn mill. Some of the foundations of these buildings (less substantial than those for the granary, extending only to the surface of subsoil [005]) were recorded in Trench 1 ([009] & [021]).

6.3.10 The Victorian houses were demolished when the site was redeveloped in the 1960s and this was represented by a layer of brick rubble [011].

#### **6.4 Potential impact on archaeological remains**

6.4.1 Although precise details of the construction methods to be employed are not known, the proposed development has some potential to adversely affect heritage assets on this site.

6.4.2 The potential impact will be greatest within the footprint of the proposed buildings but will extend into surrounding areas due to the insertion of services and the mechanical removal (grubbing out) of existing building remains and other obstructions.

#### **6.5 Consideration of project aims and potential research objectives**

6.5.1 From the above (6.2 & 6.3) it can be seen that the fieldwork has fulfilled the aims of the evaluation (2.7.1), to 'determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development site'.

6.5.2 The site has produced a small finds assemblage that has allowed tentative dating of the archaeological remains but which is otherwise of relatively low significance. No deposits suitable for environmental sampling were encountered and given the well-drained nature of the underlying gravels it is unlikely that damp or waterlogged deposits suitable for the preservation of environmental evidence will exist on this site.

6.5.3 The evaluation has shown that intensive development of the site since the second half of the 19th century has had a considerable damaging effect on earlier deposits. Although archaeological remains similar to those encountered in the evaluation might exist in localised areas of the site, such remains are likely to be truncated heavily by building foundations, service trenches and other intrusive features.

#### **6.6 Conclusions**

6.6.1 The archaeological evaluation has had positive results, revealing limited evidence for the use of the site in the prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval periods.

6.6.2 Due to the degree of disturbance by post-medieval and modern foundations and services there is considered to be low potential for significant survival of heritage assets elsewhere on the site.

6.6.3 In view of the above, it is considered unlikely that further archaeological mitigation will be required in relation to the current planning application.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Archaeology South-East, 2015, *Method Statement: Archaeological Evaluation at Land at Nunn's Mill (AKA Quayside Mill), Quayside, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 1BW*

British Geological Survey, 2015, BGS Geology of Britain Viewer, accessed on 19/05/2015 <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html>

CgMs Consulting, 2015, Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation for Trial Trench Evaluation: Land at Nuns Mill, Woodbridge, Suffolk (unpublished document)

Chartered Institute of Archaeologists, 2014, cIFA Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials, accessed on 21/05/15 [http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/CIfAS&GFinds\\_1.pdf](http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/CIfAS&GFinds_1.pdf)

Cunningham, C.M. 1985, 'A typology for post-medieval pottery in Essex' in Cunningham, C.M & Drury, P.J., *Post-medieval sites and their pottery: Moulsham Street, Chelmsford*, Chelmsford Archaeol. Trust Rep. 5, Counc. Brit. Archaeol. Res. Rep. 54, 1–16

Heritage Collective LLP, 2013, Heritage Statement: Nunn's Mill, Quayside, Woodbridge, Suffolk

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

ASE would like to thank Paul Gajos of CgMs Consulting for commissioning the project. Dr Abby Antrobus of SCCAS/CT provided advice and monitored the project.

Adrian Scruby managed the fieldwork and Jim Stevenson managed the post-excavation process. Kieron Heard directed the fieldwork and was assisted by Sam Riley. Ellen Heppell carried out the site survey and Andrew Lewsey produced the figures for this report.



**Appendix 1: Digital image catalogue**

8322_001	TR 1	SW	0.5m	Pit 002, half sectioned
8322_002	TR 1	SW	0.5m	Pit 002, half sectioned
8322_003	TR 1	SW	0.5m	Pit 002, half sectioned
8322_004	TR 2	SW	1m	Staining at SW end of Trench 2
8322_005	TR 2	SW	1m	Staining at SW end of Trench 2
8322_006	TR 2	NE		General view of Trench 2
8322_007	TR 2	NE		General view of Trench 2
8322_008	TR 1	NW		General view of Trench 1
8322_009	TR 1	NW		General view of Trench 1
8322_010	TR 1	SE	1m	General view of Trench 1
8322_011	TR 1	N	0.2m	Possible posthole, fully excavated
8322_012	TR 1	N	0.2m	Possible posthole, fully excavated
8322_013	TR 1	NE	0.3m	Foundation 009 in section 3.1
8322_014	TR 1	NE	0.3m	Foundation 009 in section 3.1
8322_015	TR 1	WNW	0.5m	Foundation 009 in SW side of trench
8322_016	TR 1	WNW	0.5m	Foundation 009 in SW side of trench
8322_017	TR 1	SSW	1m	Four postholes at SE end of trench
8322_018	TR 1	SSW	1m	Four postholes at SE end of trench
8322_019	TR 1	SE		Working shot, PHs at SE end of trench
8322_020	TR 1	SE		Working shot, PHs at SE end of trench
8322_021	TR 1	NW	0.5m	Pit 024, fully excavated
8322_022	TR 1	NW	0.5m	Pit 024, fully excavated
8322_023	TR 1	SE		Working shot, pit 002
8322_024	TR 1	SE		Working shot, pit 002

## HER Summary

Site Code	WBG 098
Name and Address	Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill), Quayside, Woodbridge
County	Suffolk
OS Grid Reference	TM 27500 48880
Geology	River Terrace Sand and Gravel
ASE Project Number	8322
Type of Fieldwork	Evaluation
Type of Site	Shallow Urban
Dates of Fieldwork	14–15 May 2015
Sponsor/Client	CgMs Consulting
Project Manager	Adrian Scruby
Project Supervisor	Kieron Heard
Period Summary	Prehistoric, Medieval, Post-medieval

### Summary

*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 conduct an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill), Quayside, Woodbridge, Suffolk. The evaluation was carried out in advance of a proposed residential development. Three evaluation trenches were excavated, covering an area of 86m<sup>2</sup> and representing approximately 4.8% of the total area of the 1800m<sup>2</sup> site.*

*The site was located on gently sloping ground in the south-eastern part of the town, close to the River Deben. The natural stratum was River Terrace Sand and Gravel.*

*Possible occupation of the site in the prehistoric period was represented by a pit containing small amounts of struck flint, heat-altered flint and fired clay.*

*Several postholes and a pit are likely to have been of early medieval date, although their significance is unclear. They were sealed by a sequence of modified soil horizons representing probable cultivation in the medieval and post-medieval periods.*

*The first significant development of the site occurred in the 19th century, with the construction of a corn mill. Some of the brick foundations of this building and adjacent houses were recorded, truncating earlier deposits.*

*Redevelopment of the site in the 1960s resulted in extensive additional destruction through the construction of concrete strip foundations and stanchion bases, and the insertion of services.*

## OASIS Form

### OASIS ID: archaeol6-212388

#### Project details

Project name	Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill), Quayside, Woodbridge, Suffolk
Short description of the project	The site was located on gently sloping ground in the south-eastern part of the town, close to the River Deben. The natural stratum was River Terrace Sand and Gravel. Possible occupation of the site in the prehistoric period was represented by a pit containing small amounts of struck flint, heat-altered flint and fired clay. Several postholes and a pit are likely to have been of early medieval date, although their significance is unclear. They were sealed by a sequence of modified soil horizons representing probable cultivation in the medieval and post-medieval periods. The first significant development of the site occurred in the 19th century, with the construction of a corn mill. Some of the brick foundations of this building and adjacent houses were recorded, truncating earlier deposits. Redevelopment of the site in the 1960s resulted in extensive additional destruction through the construction of concrete strip foundations and stanchion bases, and the insertion of services.
Project dates	Start: 14-05-2015 End: 15-05-2015
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	WBG 098 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	ESF 23051 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	C13/0767/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type	PIT Late Prehistoric
Monument type	POSTHOLE Medieval
Monument type	FOUNDATION Post Medieval
Significant Finds	WORKED FLINT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)

Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL WOODBRIDGE Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill), Quayside, Woodbridge, Suffolk
Study area	1800.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 27500 48880 52.0908585012 1.32139974789 52 05 27 N 001 19 17 E Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Adrian Scruby
Project supervisor	Kieron Heard
Type of sponsor/funding body	Consultant
Name of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Physical Archive ID	WBG 098
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Digital Archive ID	WBG 098
Digital Contents	"Ceramics","Stratigraphic","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Survey","Text"

Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Paper Archive ID	WBG 098
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Miscellaneous Material", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

---

**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill), Quayside, Woodbridge, Suffolk: Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Heard, K
Other bibliographic details	ASE Report No. 2015188
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Braintree
Description	A4, 21 pages

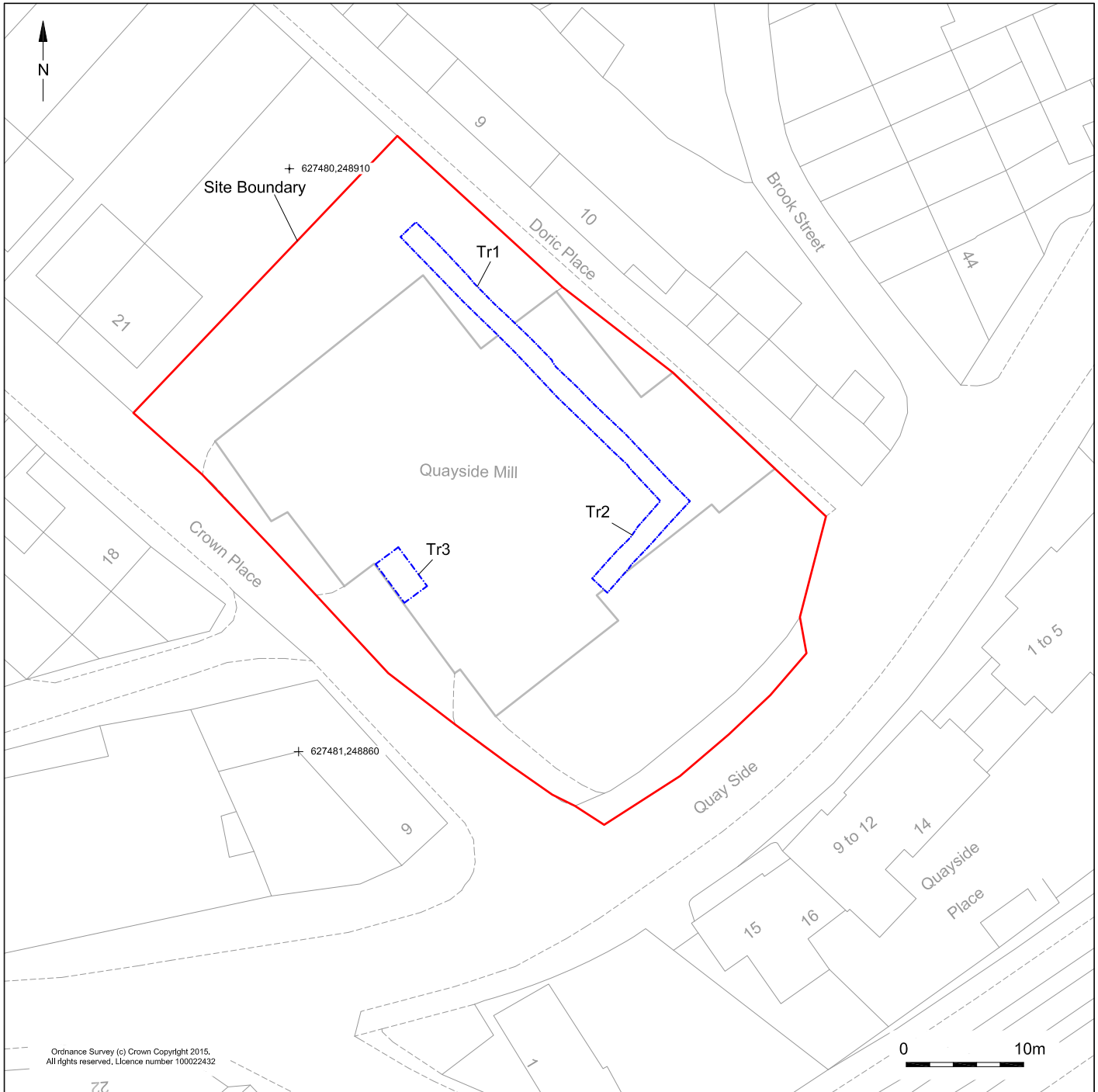
---

Entered by	Kieron Heard (k.heard@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	8 June 2015



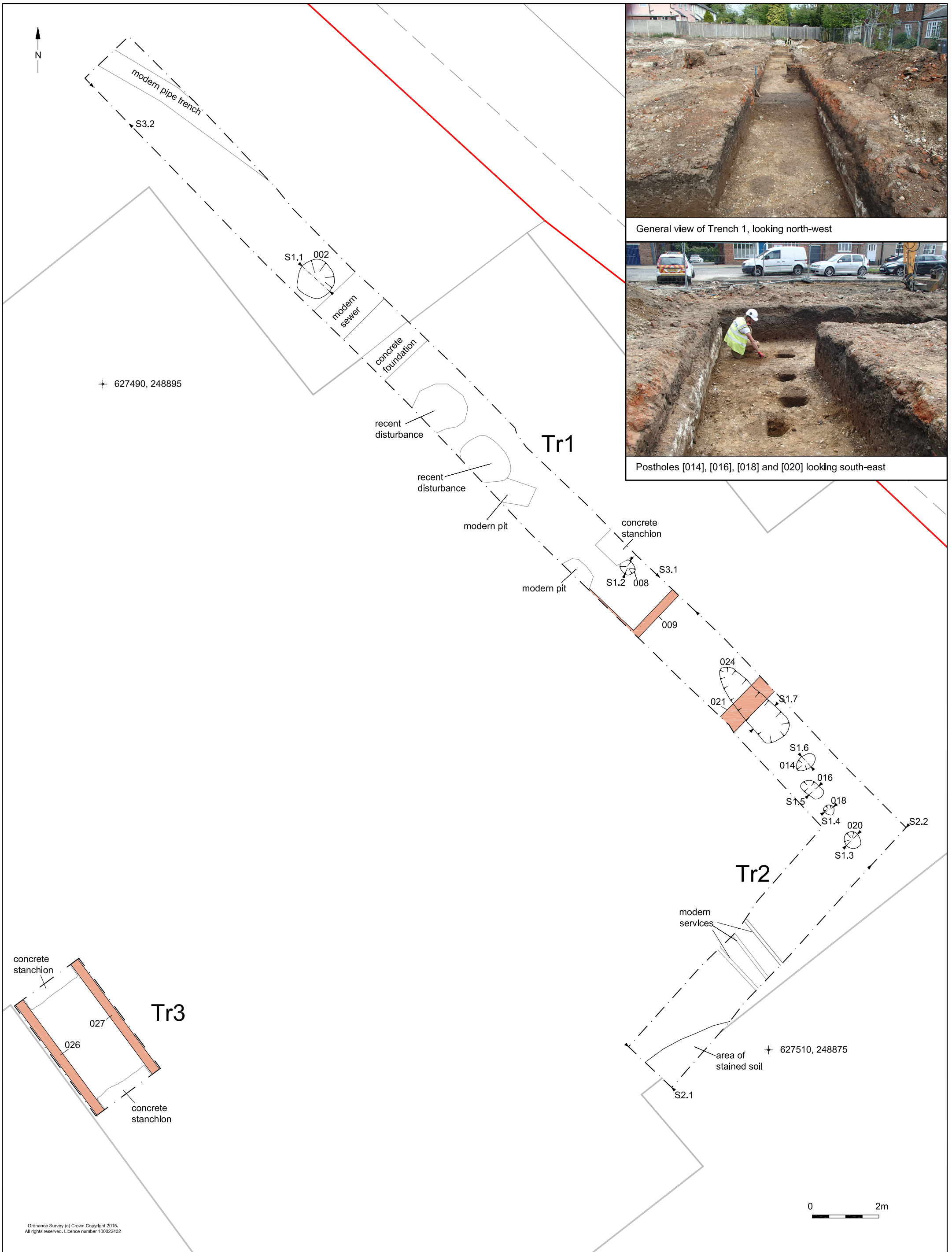
Contains Ordnance Survey data  
Crown copyright and database right 2015

© Archaeology South-East		Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill), Quayside, Woodbridge	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 8322	June 2015	Site location	
Report No: 2015188	Drawn by: APL		



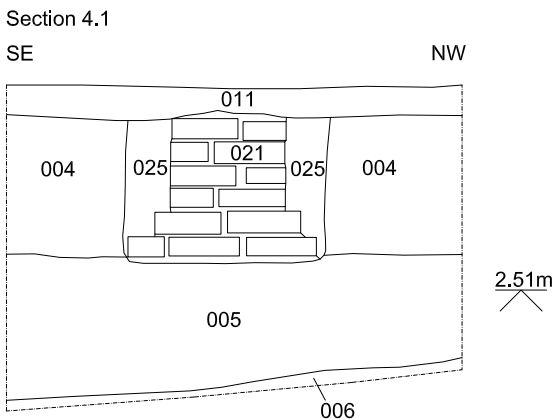
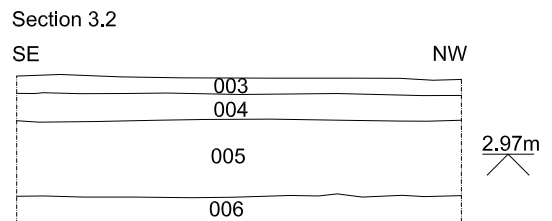
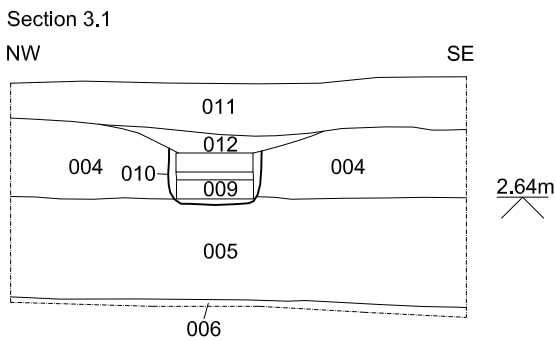
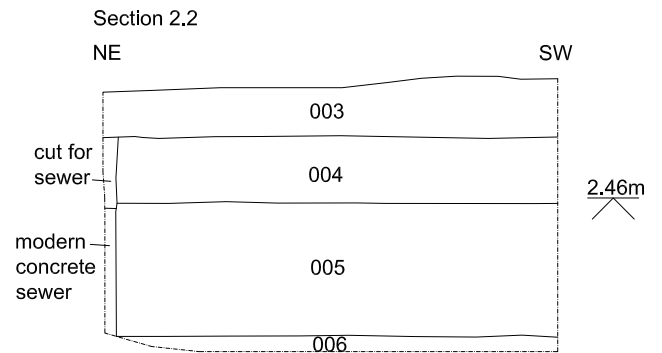
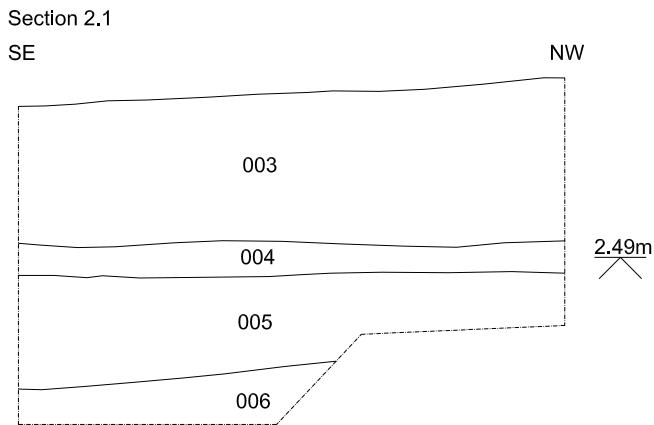
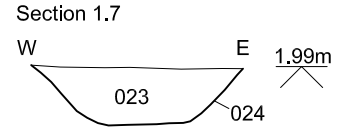
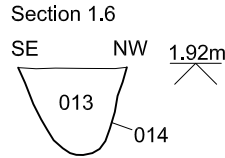
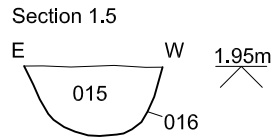
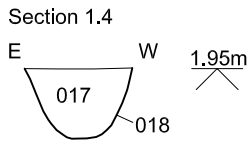
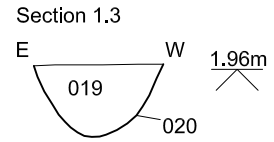
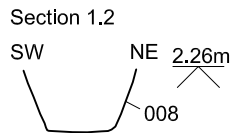
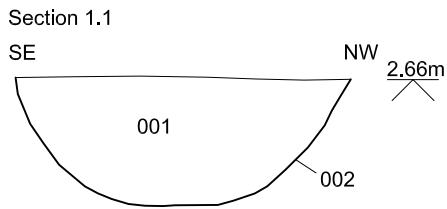
<b>© Archaeology South-East</b>		Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill), Quayside, Woodbridge	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 8322	June 2015	Trench locations	
Report Ref: 2015188	Drawn by: APL		





© Archaeology South-East		Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill), Quayside, Woodbridge	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 8322	June 2015	Trenches 1, 2 and 3	
Report Ref: 2015188	Drawn by: APL		





© Archaeology South-East		Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill), Quayside, Woodbridge	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 8322	June 2015	Sections	
Report Ref: 2015188	Drawn by: APL		



Pit [002] looking south-west



Foundation [009] looking north-east



Foundation [009] looking north-west



Postholes [014], [016], [018] and [020] looking south

© Archaeology South-East		Land at Nunn's Mill (Quayside Mill), Quayside, Woodbridge	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 8322	June 2015	Selected photographs	
Report Ref: 2015188	Drawn by: APL		

**Sussex Office**

Units 1 & 2  
2 Chapel Place  
Portslade  
East Sussex BN41 1DR  
tel: +44(0)1273 426830  
email: [fau@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:fau@ucl.ac.uk)  
web: [www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeologyse](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeologyse)

**Essex Office**

The Old Magistrates Court  
79 South Street  
Braintree  
Essex CM7 3QD  
tel: +44(0)1376 331470  
email: [fau@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:fau@ucl.ac.uk)  
web: [www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeologyse](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeologyse)

**London Office**

Centre for Applied Archaeology  
UCL Institute of Archaeology  
31-34 Gordon Square  
London WC1H 0PY  
tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778  
email: [fau@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:fau@ucl.ac.uk)  
web: [www.ucl.ac.uk/caa](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/caa)

