

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

**ABBEY VIEW LODGES  
ABBEY ROAD  
LEISTON  
SUFFOLK**

**ASE Project No: 170323  
Parish/Site Code: LCS228  
Event Code: ESF25501**

**ASE Report No: 2017398**



**September 2017**

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Abbey Road  
Leiston  
Suffolk**

**NGR: TM 44399 63700**

**Planning Ref: DC/15/1588/OUT**

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**ASE Report No: 2017398  
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## **Abstract**

*This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East on land at Abbey View Lodges, Abbey Road, Leiston, Suffolk, in August 2017. The fieldwork was undertaken in advance of residential development on behalf of John Monk Associates LLP.*

*Nine evaluation trenches were excavated across the 0.8ha former holiday lodge site, their locations being determined by the constraints of concrete foundations, landscaping, planting and service runs. Of these, only three, Trenches 4, 8 and 9, revealed the presence of archaeological features.*

*The trial trench evaluation has demonstrated that archaeological remains of probable and possible medieval date are present in the east of the site, toward Abbey Road. The only other recorded feature relates to the modern disposal of poultry remains.*

*No archaeological remains are present in the west of the site. Some modern disturbance was observed in the south of the site and it is likely that further parts of the site have been impacted by its previous development and use as a holiday lodge site.*

*It is considered that the proposed development will have a low to negligible impact on any archaeological remains across the majority of the site. The recorded features in the east of the site are overlain by a c.06-0.8m thickness of overburden deposits; intrusive construction works will have the potential to impact these remains where they exceed such depths.*

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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 John Monk Associates LLP to undertake an archaeological evaluation prior to residential development on land at Abbey View Lodges, Abbey Road, Leiston, Suffolk.
- 1.1.2 The site is located in eastern Suffolk just beyond the northern edge of Leiston, c.1km from the town centre (Figure 1). It is situated on the western side of Abbey Road and comprises an irregular parcel of land 0.8ha in area, containing several timber holiday lodges and associated infrastructure. The site is bounded to the north and west by hedgerows and ploughed fields, to the east by Abbey Road (B1122) and to the south by residential housing.

### **1.2 Topography and Geology**

- 1.2.1 The development area consists of several timber lodges set on concrete bases, accessed by paths and gravel trackways. The land between the lodges has been landscaped and consists of small areas of lawn interspersed with flower borders, trees, shrubs and tall hedges. In the south of the site, an area of rough ground in the vicinity of Trenches 5, 6 and 7 was used as a rubbish dump and bonfire site, and to its east was a large shed and two or three part-dismantled greenhouses.
- 1.2.2 The site sloped gently from west to east, dropping c.3.5m in height over a distance of about 100m. Ground surface levels ranged from c.11m AOD, in the vicinity of Trench 1, to just under 7.5m AOD, at the east end of Trenches 8 and 9.
- 1.2.3 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS © NERC 2017), the underlying solid geology consists of Crag Group Sand, a sedimentary Bedrock formed less than 5 million years ago in the Quaternary and Neogene Periods. No overlying superficial deposits are recorded in the area.

### **1.3 Planning Background**

- 1.3.1 The proposed development comprises the clearing of the existing site and the construction of eight dwellings with associated infrastructure and access. Outline planning permission has been granted at appeal with conditions (Ref: DC/15/1588/OUT, Appeal Ref: APP/J3530/W/15/3026060) by the Planning Inspectorate and Suffolk Coastal District Council.
- 1.3.2 As the Local Planning Authority (LPA) had been advised by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT) that the location of the proposed development could affect important archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition (Condition 9) was attached. This stated that:

*No development shall take place within the site until a programme of*

*archaeological work has been implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The scheme of investigation shall include (but not be limited to), post investigation assessment, provision for publication and dissemination of the investigation, a timetable for its various elements including implementation in relation to the construction/occupation of the dwellings.*

- 1.3.3 Details of the required archaeological works were set out in a *Brief for Archaeological Evaluation* issued by SCCAS/CT in March 2017. The archaeological evaluation was required in order for the LPA to be able to take into account the particular nature and the significance of any below-ground heritage assets at this location and allow mitigation strategies to be developed.
- 1.3.4 A *Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Archaeological Evaluation* was produced by ASE (2017) in response to the Brief. This set out the methodology, scope of work and research aims for the archaeological trial trenching. The WSI was submitted to SCCAS/CT and approved prior to the commencement of the project. All work was undertaken in accordance with this document; Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003), and the relevant Chartered Institute for Archaeologists standards and guidance (CIfA 2014a; 2014b).

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

- 1.4.1 This report describes and assesses the results of the archaeological evaluation carried out at Abbey View Lodges by Trevor Ennis (Senior Archaeologist) between the 21st and 24th August 2017. The fieldwork was managed by Sarah Ritchie.
- 1.4.2 Recipients of this report comprise John Monk Associates LLP, SCCAS/CT, and the Suffolk Historic Environment Record. Copies of the report will be submitted to fulfil the archaeological planning condition.

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

2.1.1 This historical background has been compiled from information on the Heritage Gateway, The East of England Research Framework (Medlycott 2011), the Archaeological Brief (SCCAS 2017) and a 1km radius search of the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER).

### **2.2 Prehistoric**

2.2.1 Over the last ten years evidence for the extensive occupation of Suffolk during the later prehistoric period has been uncovered by the results of the National Mapping Programme, as well as from developer-funded excavations. Excavations across Suffolk have identified evidence of Bronze Age occupation including ring ditches at Flixton Park Quarry, on the river terraces of the Waveney and enclosure sites at Chilton and Withersfield, to the west of the site. Current understanding of the Iron Age in Suffolk suggests that this period was represented by a series of unenclosed farmsteads, which has led to difficulty in identifying the plan and extent of such settlements by traditional archaeological methods (Martin 1999).

2.2.2 There is scant evidence for prehistoric activity recorded within the vicinity of the site. Two Mesolithic perforated mace heads were found within a clay pit c.700m south-east of the site (SHER: LCS 005). An undated mound of burnt flints was recorded c. 400m to the east of the site (SHER: LCS 167).

2.2.3 Two Bronze Age cinerary urns, both with horseshoe applied handles, the larger inverted over the smaller which contained some material resembling ash, were found in Carr Road, Leiston c. 800m SE of the site (SHER: LCS 004). Adjacent to this is the cropmark of part of a possible ring-ditch, 30m in diameter (SHER: LCS 020).

2.2.4 A possible double ring-ditch of uncertain archaeological significance and date is visible as a cropmark on aerial photographs (SHER: LCS 199). If a genuine archaeological feature, its size and topographic position would support its interpretation as the remains of a Bronze Age round barrow. However, it could instead be a cropmark of geological origin.

### **2.3 Roman**

2.3.1 Two bronze 1st-century Roman sestertii were found c.95m south of the site (SHER: LCS 013), and a 3rd-century Roman coin was located c.230m south-west of the site during hedge cutting (SHER: LCS MISC). A Roman pottery kiln was recorded during monitoring of groundworks c.170m south-west of the site (SHER: LCS 142), and Roman pottery scatters have been located c.600m east of the site (SHER: LCS 010).

## **2.4 Saxon and early medieval**

- 2.4.1 The only Saxon activity within the vicinity of the site consists of a pottery scatter dating to c. AD 85-1100, found c.600m east of the site (SHER: LCS 014).

## **2.5 Medieval**

- 2.5.1 Prior to the Norman Conquest, Domesday records list Leiston as having 27 villagers, 27 small holders, 7 slaves and 56 freemen. The Lord was Edric of Laxfield, who had 56 freemen.
- 2.5.2 In 1086 the Lords are recorded as Fulcred; Gilbert; Robert Malet, the tenant in chief was Robert Malet and the total population is large: 117 households with a total tax assessment of 21.9 geld units. There were 27 villagers. 27 smallholders. 7 slaves. 56 free men, 11 Lord's plough teams, 10.5 men's plough teams, 6 acres of meadow, woodland, 5 cobs, 7 cattle, 272 pigs, 1 mill and 3 churches.
- 2.5.3 The mainly 14th-century remains of Leiston Abbey (a Scheduled Monument) lie c.500m north of the site (SHER: LCS 001). It was originally built in 1182 under the patronage of Ranulf de Granville, Lord Chief Justice to Henry II, on the marshes of Minsmere. Although the inhabitants braved wet and windswept conditions for nearly 200 years, the site flooded repeatedly and, by 1363, they had it dismantled, moved stone-by-stone and rebuilt a few miles inland. The abbey was home to The Premonstratensians, a little-known order who wore white habits and were known as the White Canons.
- 2.5.4 A 2003 archaeological investigation at 'The Barn' at Leiston Abbey (SHER: LCS 131) recorded remains of the original northern end was located adjacent to and partially underlying the existing end wall. It appears that the original medieval wall and gable end had been dismantled, possibly due to structural failure. More recent investigations within the site include 2014 and 2015 community excavations (SHER: LCS 177 and LCS 217) and monitoring at Gueston Hall (SHER: LCS 227).
- 2.5.5 A small ring ditch cropmark, circa 10m diameter is present to the north of the Abbey Farm complex, within scheduled area. Its date is unknown but it may be associated with the complex, or possibly a much earlier prehistoric feature (SHER: LCS 027). Cropmarks of part of a field system possibly connected to Leiston Abbey is present 100m to the NW of the Abbey complex (SHER: LCS 028).
- 2.5.6 The Grade II\* listed church of St. Margaret lies 1.3km south-west of the site. The original church was pulled down in 1853 except for a 15th-century tower which was preserved.
- 2.5.7 Immediately to the north of the site, a scatter of metalwork was discovered by a farmer, which included medieval coins and Nuremberg tokens (SHER: LCS 012), and a medieval silver groat of Heinrich V (SHER: MISC). A 12th-century coin hoard was discovered c.600m east of the site (SHER: LCS 147), as were two medieval pottery scatters (SHER: LCS 010). A single coin, a short cross penny



of King John (1199 - 1216) was discovered on Valley Road c. 900m to the south-east of the site (SHER: LCS MISC).

## **2.6 Post-medieval**

- 2.6.1 Leiston's main street was formerly a turnpike road, one of three roads controlled by the Aldeburgh Turnpike Trust (1792), connecting that coastal town to the main road from London to Great Yarmouth (now the A12). In the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, most of Leiston's trade was conducted via Slaughden Quay at Aldeburgh. Later the town was also served by a branch of the Ipswich to Lowestoft railway line (SHER: ADB 226), formerly the East Suffolk Railway which first opened in 1859. The branch line ran from the station at Saxmundham, through Leiston Station (SHER: LCS 137), where a privately-owned spur led into Garrett's Works. The branch line carried onwards to Thorpeness and Aldeburgh. Today it remains as a 'goods only' line servicing the nuclear power station at Sizewell.
- 2.6.2 The site is located c.1km north of Leiston High Street, and until the early 1900s, consisted of the northernmost section of a large rectangular field orientated north-south immediately to the east of Abbey Road. By 1920, the field had been developed into thin east-west housing plots, with the site itself consisting of a house and orchard fronting onto Abbey Road to the east, and open land in the west of the site. There is very little change to the site before the 1970s, after which the existing bungalows were built.
- 2.6.3 A windmill mound is mentioned on a tithe map, c. 650m south of the site (SHER: LCS MISC). The site of a smock mill by the name of "Lamberts Mill", was in Valley Road 850m south of the site, built in 1837 and demolished in 1917 (SHER: LCS 031).
- 2.6.4 Cropmarks of undated (probably post-medieval) field boundaries, and perhaps other features, are visible on aerial photographs c. 600m south-east of the site (SHER: LCS 006).
- 2.6.5 The cropmark of a large circular/sub-square enclosure c.40m in diameter surrounding a semi-circular/circular 'ringditch' at about 20m diameter (possibly open to the N) which in turn surrounds central circular dark patch circa 5m in diameter, is present 600m to the SW of the site (SHER: LCS025). A second oval cropmark, circa 15m by 10m, surrounded by an oval ditch with over 100m long possible sunken way, is present another 250m further to the NW (SHER: LCS 026). The dates and functions of these have not been established but they may relate to a former airfield another 300m to the west (outside the search radius for the site).
- 2.6.6 A scatter of post-medieval red tile was spread over most of the surface of the field adjacent to the site to the north (SHER: LCS 011).
- 2.6.7 Industry is represented by a brick works, including kilns, a pug mill, drying sheds and an extraction pit, shown on 1880's mapping 400m south of the site (SHER: LCS 153), and an iron foundry of Richard Garrett & Sons Ltd., founded 1778, 950m south of the site (SHER: LCS 163). Leiston gasworks (SHER: LCS MISC)

is also listed on the SHER.

- 2.6.8 An archaeological evaluation 500m SE of the site revealed a modern ditch, a modern pit and two undated ditches believed to be recent in origin (SHER: LCS 180). One of the ditches has been interpreted as a possible military practice trench.

### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Project Aims and Objectives**

3.1.1 The general aims of the archaeological investigation were:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
- To determine the extent, condition, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered.
- To determine the extent of any previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
- To enable the Archaeological Officer at SCCAS/CT to make an informed decision regarding any possible requirements for further work
- To make the results of the investigation publicly accessible through submission of a report to the Suffolk County Council Historic Environment Record and of the project archive to the local museum.

3.1.2 Site-specific research aims, with reference to the East Anglian Research Framework (Brown and Glazebrook 2000; Medlycott 2011), were to:

- Determine the presence/absence and significance of any evidence of Roman and medieval activity within this location
- Determine the presence/absence and significance of any later activity on the site

3.1.3 In the event that significant discoveries were made the resulting report was to seek to identify further appropriate research objectives for any future work, with reference to relevant topics and themes laid out in 'Research and Archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. Research agenda and strategy' (Brown and Glazebrook 2000) and 'Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England' (Medlycott 2011).

#### **3.2 Fieldwork Methodology**

3.2.1 According to the WSI (ASE 2017), the archaeological evaluation was to comprise the machine excavation of ten trenches of varying length covering 396 sq m and comprising a 5% sample of the site, as specified in the archaeological brief (SCCAS/CT 2017). However, following the identification of numerous service runs and tree protection areas around much of the periphery of the site, a revised trench plan of eight trenches covering 279 sq m was proposed (August 2017) and approved. Further limitations to trench position were identified on site (additional power and data cables, extant sheds and greenhouses, fenced-off areas, etc.) and after communication with SCCAS/CT a 'best fit' strategy was adopted in regard to trench layout. In practice, nine trenches of varying length were able to

be excavated (Figure 2), covering 306 sq. m, slightly more than the revised trench plan, in part due to the use of a slightly larger machine bucket.

- 3.2.2 About half of the trenches (Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6) were set out close to their proposed positions in the revised trench plan, though all were amended in some way. Trenches 1 and 2 were both moved to the south-east to avoid Heras fencing demarcating the tree root protection zone along the northern and western sides of the site. Trench 2 was also reduced in length (from 30m to 22m) for the same reason. Trench 4 was moved slightly to the east to avoid an overhanging tree canopy and Trench 5 was staggered to avoid a substantial hedge. Trench 6 was located in its exact position but it was reduced in length to 8m (from 10m) due to the presence of the spoil heap from Trench 5.
- 3.2.3 Of the remainder, Trench 3 was moved from its original position due to a combination of factors (the presence of projecting Heras fencing, water pipes and existing tree and shrub belts), was reduced in length from 15m to 10m and was relocated on the opposite side of the substantial hedge from Trench 5. Trench 7 was turned 90° to avoid a large shed, and formed an L-shape with Trench 6. Trench 8 was completely re-aligned due to the presence of a water pipe and electricity cable, the latter passing much closer to the southern end of the proposed trench location than the service plan would suggest. Trench 9, to the north of Trench 8, was an additional trench in one of the few open and accessible areas, excavated to provide extra coverage.
- 3.2.4 All trenches were CAT scanned for the presence of underground power cables. The positions of live power cables to the south and west of Trench 8 were identified. However, an unmarked and shallowly-buried data cable running between Trenches 3 and 5 did not register on the CAT scanner.
- 3.2.5 Machining of the trenches was conducted, under close archaeological supervision, by a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket in stages to reveal the stratigraphy. Modern surface deposits, topsoil and subsoil were removed down to the top of the natural geology or the top of any archaeological remains encountered. Trenches were inspected for the presence of archaeological features.
- 3.2.6 Standard ASE excavation, artefact collection, and recording methodologies were employed throughout, with all work carried out in accordance with Suffolk County Council's *Requirements for Archaeological Evaluation* (SCCAS 2012, Version 1.3), the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Code of Conduct, by-laws and guidelines (CIfA 2014a; 2014b), and in compliance with *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).
- 3.2.7 All trenches were recorded regardless of the presence/absence of archaeological features. This included a record of soil stratigraphy at each end and in the centre, and a post-excavation photograph as a minimum. Written records were maintained on pro forma trench record sheets.
- 3.2.8 All trenches were digitally photographed and planned using GPS.
- 3.2.9 Where present, finds were retrieved from all excavated deposits and identified by context number to a specific deposit. These have been processed according CIfA

guidelines (2014c). Where appropriate, finds have been marked with the site code and context number and retained for specialist identification and study.

### **3.3 Archive**

- 3.3.1 Subject to the landowner's permission, Archaeology South-East will arrange with SCCAS for the deposition of the archive, currently held at the offices of ASE. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

<b>Item</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Context record sheet	10
Trench Record forms	9
Section/Plan sheets	2
Drawing register	1
Digital photos	30

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

## 4.0 RESULTS

### 4.1 Summary

- 4.1.1 The excavated evaluation trenches varied in length from 8m to 30m and were all just over 2m wide. Trench depths ranged from 0.50m to 0.80m with the removed overburden consisting of varying amounts of topsoil and subsoil. Final trench locations (as excavated) are shown on Figure 2.
- 4.1.2 Of the total of nine trenches excavated, Trenches 4, 8 and 9 were found to contain below-ground archaeological remains. The recorded remains were all cut features, underlying the subsoil and intruding into the undisturbed natural deposit.
- 4.1.3 A low density of archaeological features was present. Two undated and poorly-defined linear features were identified in Trench 8, both continuing into Trench 9. Three further intercutting or merging features were present in the eastern half of Trench 9. Two were probably linear and the other more likely to be a pit. One ditch contained a few sherds of medieval pottery. In trench 4, a variety of bird bones were found in a small pit, probably of modern date.
- 4.1.4 The natural deposits exposed in the base of the trenches consisted of silty sand and sandy clay that varied in colour from light yellow to yellowish grey.
- 4.1.5 The trenches containing archaeological features are described individually, in detail, in sections 4.2 to 4.4. The remaining archaeologically negative trenches are given more summary description in section 4.5.

### 4.2 Trench 4 (Figure 2)

Height at E end of trench (top) = 10.02m AOD  
 Height at W end of trench (top) = 10.79m AOD

Context	Type	Description	Max Dimensions (L x W x D in m)
4/001	Layer	Topsoil – mid greyish brown sandy clay, some darker brown	10 x 2 x 0.49
4/002	Layer	Natural– light yellow sandy clay	10 x 2 x 0.04+
4/003	Fill	In 4/004 – mid to light grey sandy silt	0.50 x 0.40 x 0.10
4/004	Cut	Pit – sub-circular, near vertical sides, flat base	0.50 x 0.40 x 0.10

Table 2: Trench 4 list of recorded contexts

- 4.2.1 Trench 4 was orientated east/west and was located in the south of the site (Figure 2). It was 10m long and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.53m with the removed overburden consisting entirely of topsoil [4/001]. A deposit of natural light yellow clay [4/002] was exposed in the base of the trench.
- 4.2.2 Cut into the natural deposit was a small sub-circular pit [4/004], 0.5m long by 0.10m deep, filled with mid to light grey sandy silt [4/003]. Numerous bird bones were recovered from the fill. Given the small size of the bones and their good state of preservation in the sandy soil it is assumed that this feature was of relatively recent date. It appears that this pit constituted the deliberate burial of modern domestic and wild fowl carcasses.

### 4.3 Trench 8 (Figures 2 and 3)

Height at WNW end of trench (top) = 8.09m AOD

Height at ESE end of trench (top) = 7.45m AOD

Context	Type	Description	Max Dimensions (L x W x D in m)
8/001	Layer	Topsoil – dark grey sandy silt	17 x 2 x 0.27
8/002	Layer	Subsoil – mid brownish grey sandy clay silt	17 x 2 x 0.60
8/003	Layer	Natural – yellow to light yellowish grey silty sand	17 x 2
8/004	Fill	In 8/005 – mid yellowish grey silty sand	3+ x 1.33 x 0.33
8/005	Cut	Linear- NW/SE aligned, poorly defined, steepish sides, flat base	3+ x 1.33 x 0.33
8/006	Fill	In 8/007 – mid greyish brown sandy clay	3+ x 1.05 x 0.16
8/007	Cut	Linear – NW/SE aligned, irregular in plan, variable sides, undulating base	3+ x 1.05 x 0.16

Table 3: Trench 8 list of recorded contexts

4.3.1 Trench 8 was located in the east of the site. It was 17m long and orientated roughly WNW/ESE. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.80m with the recorded deposit sequence comprising topsoil [8/001] overlying a thick deposit of mid brownish grey sandy clay silt subsoil [8/002]. Natural deposits [8/003] consisted of yellow to light yellowish grey silty sand. This was cut by two poorly-defined linear features.

4.3.2 Probable ditch [8/005] was roughly aligned NW/SE. It was 1.33m wide by 0.33m deep with steep sides and a flat base, though may have been slightly overcut. It was filled with yellowish grey silty sand [8/004] that had occasional flint inclusions towards its base. No finds were retrieved from it.

4.3.2 Parallel linear feature [8/007] was less regular than ditch [8/005]. It was just over 1m wide and only 0.16m deep and had gradual, but varying, sides and an undulating base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish brown sandy clay [8/006]. No finds were collected from this feature.

4.3.3 The northward continuation of both ditches were identified in Trench 9.

### 4.4 Trench 9 (Figure 2)

Height at W end of trench (top) = 7.84 AOD

Height at E end of trench (top) = 7.31 AOD

Context	Type	Description	Max Dimensions (L x W x D in m)
9/001	Layer	Topsoil – dark grey sandy silt and gravel	12 x 2 x 0.30
9/002	Layer	Subsoil – mid brownish grey sandy clay silt	30 x 2 x 0.50
9/003	Layer	Natural –yellow to light yellowish grey silty sand	30 x 2
9/004	Fill	In 9/005 – mid greyish brown sandy clay silt	2+ x 1.1 x 0.60
9/005	Cut	Ditch? – N/S aligned, 45-60° sides, concave base	2+ x 1.1 x 0.60
9/006	Fill	In 9/007 – mid greyish brown sandy clay silt	1.35 x 0.75+ x 0.60
9/007	Cut	Pit – sub-circular? 30-50° sides, flattish base	1.35 x 0.75+ x 0.60
9/008	Fill	In 9/009 - mid greyish brown sandy clay silt	2+ x 1.8 x 0.36

9/009	Cut	Pit? – shape unclear, 30-35° western side, flat bottom	2+ x 1.8 x 0.36
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Table 4: Trench 9 list of recorded contexts

- 4.4.1 Trench 9 was also located in the east of the site, to the north of Trench 8, and similarly orientated WNW/ESE. The removed overburden was up to 0.8m deep and consisted of topsoil [9/001] over a thick deposit of subsoil [9/002]. Natural yellow to light yellowish grey silty sand [9/003] was exposed in the base of the trench.
- 4.4.2 The two linear features identified in Trench 8, [8/005] and [8/007] continued across the western half of Trench 9 and were not further investigated here.
- 4.4.3 Three additional features, [9/005], [9/007] and [9/009] were investigated in the eastern half of the trench. All three were immediately adjacent and had uncertain intercut relationships due to the similarity of their mid-greyish brown sandy clay silt fill(s).
- 4.4.4 The eastern-most feature [9/005] was the most ditch-like of the three with 45-60° sides and a concave base, producing a splayed U-shaped profile. Approximately 1.1m wide and 0.60m deep, it crossed the trench on a similar NW/SE alignment as the ditches to its west. Three sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from its single fill [9/004].
- 4.4.5 The remaining two features, [9/007] and [9/009], were shallower with flatter bases. While [9/009] may have been linear and vaguely ditch-like, [9/007] seemed more likely to be a pit judging by its curving sides. No artefacts were recovered from their fills.
- 4.5 Blank trenches (Trenches 1, 2, 5E & 5W, 6, 7) (Figure 2)**
- 4.5.1 No archaeological remains were identified in Trenches 1, 2, 5E & 5W, 6 and 7.
- 4.5.2 Similar deposit sequences as recorded in the trenches containing remains were present here; details are presented in Table 5. Topsoil in all trenches consisted of mid to dark grey brown sandy silt or sandy clay, with roots and modern artefacts. It varied between 0.20m and 0.53m thick. Part of Trench 7 also contained a modern levelling layer of yellowish grey sand. The natural deposit was overlain by subsoil in Trenches 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7, composed of mid brownish grey sandy clay silt.
- 4.5.3 Modern ground disturbance that intruded into the natural deposit was present in Trenches 5 (E) and 7. A cable crossed Trenches 3 and 5. Trenches 1 and 2, in the west of the site, were entirely devoid of any features of any kind and date.
- 4.5.4 Modern pottery and post-medieval roof tile was recovered from the topsoil [2/001] in Trench 2 and further post-medieval tile from the topsoil [5/001] in Trench 5.



Trench	Context	Type	Description	Max Depth/ thickness	Height above OD
1	1/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.43m	9.83m to 11m
	1/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.33m	9.40m to 10.57m
	1/003	Layer	Natural	-	8.97m to 10.65m
2	2/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.20m	9.92m to 11.20m
	2/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.32m	9.77m to 11.m
	2/003	Layer	Natural	-	9.45m to 10.61m
3	3/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.50m	9.62m to 9.19m
	3/002	Layer	Natural	-	9.14m to 8.83m
5	5/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.53m	8.77m to 10.02m
	5/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.58m	8.34m to 9.49m
	5/003	Layer	Natural	-	8.28m to 9.34m
6	6/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.30m	9.67m to 9.73m
	6/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.20m	9.43m to 9.48m
	6/003	Layer	Natural	-	9.20m to 9.25m
7	7/001	Layer	Sand & turf	0.15m	8.92m
	7/002	Layer	Topsoil	0.35m	9.73m
	7/003	Layer	Subsoil	0.25m	8.77m to 9.38m
	7/004	Layer	Natural	-	9.20m to 8.22m

Table 5: List of blank trenches

#### 4.6 Metal-detecting

4.6.1 Metal-detecting was undertaken in all nine of the evaluation trenches. Most of the trenches were scanned for metal prior to excavation, the exceptions being Trenches 5, 6 and 7, on the site of a former rubbish dump and bonfire, where there were numerous modern pieces of metal (wire, tin, car parts, etc.) clearly visible on the surface of the topsoil. The spoil tips and bases of all of the evaluation trenches were also detected for the presence of metalwork.

4.6.2 A total of 22 metal objects were recovered; most were of aluminium or iron. All were recovered from the topsoil and appear to be of modern date. There was no correlation between the recovered spoil tip finds and any underlying archaeological remains. The recovered metal objects are reported on below (Section 5.4).

## 5.0 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

### 5.1 Summary

- 5.1.1 A small-sized assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation at Abbey View. All finds were washed and dried or air-dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context (Table 6). All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014c).

Context	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Iron	Weight (g)	Other Metal	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)
1/001					1	9	1	64		
2/001	1	7	2	16	1	4	3	12		
4/003			1	6					455	242
5/001			2	24	3	224				
6/001					2	210	8	116		
8/001							1	22		
9/001							2	58		
9/004	3	60								
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>242</b>

Table 6: Quantification of bulk finds

### 5.2 Pottery by Helen Walker

- 5.2.1 Four sherds of pottery, weighing 67g were excavated from two contexts and have been catalogued according to Cunningham's typology of post-Roman pottery in Essex (Cunningham 1985, 1-16; expanded by Drury *et al.* 1993 and Cotter 2000).
- 5.2.2 Ditch fill [9/004] produced sherds of what appears to be Hedingham coarseware; this is in the relatively fine version of the fabric as described by Walker (2012, 34-36). These finds comprise a rim sherd of Cunningham's sub-form B4 and two body sherds. The rim is probably from a cooking-pot or perhaps a bowl and is decorated with a row of dimples around the neck. It is comparable to vessels excavated from the Hole Farm kilns at Sible Hedingham (Walker 2012, fig.111-113) datable to the mid-13th century. Hedingham ware is uncommon north of the River Gipping, although Hedingham fineware has previously been found at Leiston and is probably the result of coastal trade (Walker 2012, 105-108). Alternatively, it is possible these sherds are actually products of the much nearer Hollesley Bay industry, located on the Suffolk coast to the south of Leiston, which also produced vessels with dimpled decoration in a fabric not dissimilar to that of Hedingham coarseware (Walker 2012, 95; Anderson 2004, 19-22; Anderson and Newman 1999, 149-51).
- 5.2.3 Topsoil context [2/001] produced modern pottery comprising a sherd of ironstone china from the rim of a marmalade jar showing the characteristic horizontal groove below the rim and ribbed sides. It is datable to the later 19th to mid-20th centuries.

### 5.3 Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.3.1 Five pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing a total of 46g were hand-collected from three contexts. This assemblage included three fragments of post-medieval roof-tile, of uncertain date, which were collected from topsoil contexts [2/001] and [5/001]; although a manufacture date of between the 16th and 18th centuries is suggested. A single fragment of more recent, c.20th century, wall tile with a black, bitumen-like glaze on it was also collected from topsoil [5/001]. The only piece of brick was incredibly fragmented and weighed only 6g. It was retrieved from pit fill [4/003].

5.3.2 The material has all been retained at present but is recommended for discard on conclusion of the archaeological work.

### 5.4 Bulk Metalwork by Elke Raemen

5.4.1 A small assemblage comprising 22 fragments of metalwork (weight 714g) was recovered from the topsoil during metal-detecting in six different trenches. Apart from a few nails, which are undiagnostic of date, none pre-date the 20th century. An overview of this material is given in Table 7.

Context	No	Wt (g)	Material	Date	Description
1/001	1	9	Iron	undated	Rectangular sheet 53 x 31.5mm, 1mm thick
1/001	1	64	Aluminium	LC20th	Handle with plastic coating
2/001	1	4	Iron		General purpose nail- shank only: L52mm+
2/001	1	3	Aluminium	C20th	Amorphous lump - melted?
2/001	1	1	?Aluminium	C20th	Melted sheet 16+ x 14+mm, Th 1.2mm
2/001	1	8	Aluminium	C20th	Aluminium sheet 10+ x 32+mm, 1mm thick
5/001	1	206	Iron	undated	Strip fragment with rectangular end and one visible nailhole; L171mm+
5/001	2	18	Iron	undated	General purpose nail frags - shanks only; L73mm+ and 72mm+
6/001	4	95	Aluminium	LC20th-EC21st	Beer/soda can frags; Minimum No = 3
6/001	1	3	Aluminium	C20th	Sheet frag, 71mm+ x 26mm+; 0.4mm thick
6/001	1	14		LC20th-EC21st	Zinc Chloride battery, AA, Kodak
6/001	1	<1	white alloy	LC20th-EC21st	Spring; L35mm, diam 8mm
6/001	1	3	white alloy	LC20th-EC21st	Floppy disk component
6/001	1	178	Iron	C20th	Strip fragment with in situ screw near rectangular end; blue paint. L 278mm+, W25mm, Th 3.4mm
6/001	1	29	Iron	C20th	Wire, diam 2.35mm
8/001	1	21	Lead	undated	Waste
9/001	1	53	Iron	C20th	?Staple or bracket
9/001	1	5	Aluminium	LC20th-EC21st	Lid frag, e.g. from paint can; diam 89mm, Th 0.4mm

Table 7: Summary of the metal-detected finds

## 5.5 Animal Bone by Hayley Forsyth-Magee

- 5.5.1 A small assemblage of animal bone containing 496 fragments, weighing 242g, was recovered from the excavation. The assemblage was retrieved through hand-collection. The majority of it was in a moderate state of preservation, with some signs of surface erosion and weathering evident. The assemblage contains domestic fauna, consisting mainly of domestic fowl remains. A number of complete bones are present within the assemblage; measurements have not been recorded as the remains are likely to be those of modern specimens.
- 5.5.2 The assemblage has been recorded onto an Excel spreadsheet in accordance with the zoning system outlined by Serjeantson (1996). Wherever possible the fragments have been identified to species and the skeletal element represented (Schmid, 1972). Elements that could not be confidently identified to species, such as long-bone and vertebrae fragments, have been recorded generically as bird. The identification of bird bones has been undertaken with reference to the criteria outlined by Cohen & Serjeantson (1996) and Tomek & Bocheński (2009) for domestic fowl.
- 5.5.3 Avian age at death data has been collected for each specimen where observable, the state of epiphyseal bone fusion has been recorded as fused, unfused and fusing and noted as adult or sub-adult. The assemblage contains several measurable long-bones although due to the likelihood that these remains are modern no measurements have been recorded. No age-able mandibles are present. Specimens have been studied for signs of butchery, burning, gnawing, non-metric traits and pathology.
- 5.5.4 A limited range of taxa has been identified (Table 8). The assemblage is dominated by avian bones, with taxa identified including domestic fowl and possible mallard remains.

Taxa	NISP
Domestic Fowl	14
Domestic Fowl?	25
Mallard?	5
Bird	452
<i>Total</i>	<i>496</i>

Table 8: The NISP (Number of Identifiable Specimens) count.

- 5.5.5 Based on the skeletal elements present it is likely that complete carcasses of birds were deposited within a pit [4/004] in Trench 4, fill [4/003]. Both meat and non-meat bearing bones, with elements representing all body parts of the avian skeleton are present within the assemblage. The preservation of these delicate adult and sub-adult bird bones suggests that the remains are likely to be that of a modern deposit.
- 5.5.6 Evidence of pathology was observed in a single bird rib with a healed misaligned fracture. Sexual dimorphism was also observed in several long bones with evidence of medullary bone present, suggesting these bird remains are from egg-laying female specimens. Adult and juvenile animals are represented within the assemblage based on the limited fusion data available. The animal bone assemblage suggests that domestic refuse disposal was undertaken in this area.

No evidence of burning, butchery, gnawing or non-metric traits were observed.

## **5.6 Environmental Remains**

- 5.6.1 No suitable deposits were identified for bulk soil sampling for the purpose of environmental remains recovery during the evaluation.

## **6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

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

- 6.1.1 The natural superficial geological deposit was encountered at a range of heights between 8.22m AOD in Trench 7 and 10.65m AOD in Trench 1.
- 6.1.2 A consistent deposit sequence was observed across the site. The overburden consisted of between 0.20m and 0.53m of topsoil above 0.20m to 0.58m of subsoil, sealing the natural deposits. Modern artefacts were recovered from the topsoil including pottery, metalwork and CBM.
- 6.1.3 A total of six archaeological features were recorded, in Trenches 4, 8 and 9. These comprised ditches and pits overlain by subsoil and cut into the underlying natural deposit. The majority of these recorded remains were located at the eastern end of the site.

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

- 6.2.1 The construction of the concrete foundations to the timber lodges and other buildings on the site is likely to have had a detrimental impact on any archaeological remains. The site has also been subjected to landscaping and the insertion of numerous service runs cross the area, all of which are likely to have impacted on the survival of below-ground archaeological remains, where/if present.
- 6.2.2 Modern disturbance intruding into the natural deposit was evident in Trenches 5(E) and 7, and a cable was found to cross Trenches 3 and 5(W). However, the presence of the features in Trenches 8 and 9 show that there is still potential for archaeological survival in some undisturbed parts of the site.

### **6.3 Discussion by Period**

#### *Pre-medieval*

- 6.3.1 No remains have been found that evidence land use activity prior to the medieval period, despite prehistoric and Roman period remains being known and recorded in the surrounding area.

#### *Medieval*

- 6.3.2 The only dated archaeological feature recorded by the evaluation is ditch [9/005] in Trench 9. The three sherds of pottery recovered from its fill suggest a likely medieval (c.13th century) date. This ditch was located in the east of the site, close to the modern Abbey Road, which may follow the line of an earlier medieval route between Leiston Abbey and Leiston itself. The rest of the undated features in Trench 9, some of which run parallel with [9/005], may therefore be of a similar date. Collectively, these remains could be associated with roadside activity in the medieval period.

*Post-medieval and modern*

- 6.3.3 The pit containing domestic bird bones in Trench 4 is interpreted as a modern deliberate burial/disposal of domestic and wild fowl carcasses. This is the only demonstrably post- medieval feature identified by the evaluation. Post-medieval artefacts in the topsoil appear to be of relatively late date, perhaps even 20th century and attest to general land use activity within the Abbey Lodge plot.

*Undated*

- 6.3.4 All but one ditch in Trenches 8 and 9 were undated, lacking any diagnostic artefacts in their fills. However, their shared alignment and/or close proximity to probably medieval ditch [9/005] may indicate their contemporaneity.

## **6.4 Consideration of project aims**

- 6.4.1 The trial trenching achieved its primary aim in that it has determined the limited presence of archaeological remains, possibly dating to the medieval period, within the east of the evaluated area.

- 6.4.2 *Determine the presence/absence and significance of any evidence of Roman and medieval activity within this location.*

The site has no potential for evidence of Roman period activity. However, the the presence of probable medieval activity has been demonstrated. It is speculated that the dated ditch and apparently associated undated remains in Trenches 8 and 9 constitute remains of medieval land use activity perhaps associated with nearby Leiston Abbey or else other roadside occupation between it and the village. As such, these remains have some potential to provide insight into the nature of land use in relation to these foci.

- 6.4.3 *Determine the presence/absence and significance of any later activity on the site.* The evaluation has demonstrated that activity post-dating the medieval period is probably confined only to modern disposal and recent use as a holiday lodge site.

## **6.5 Updated Research Agenda**

- 6.5.1 In the light of the evaluation results, a new research question can be formulated;
- What is the nature of the medieval activity identified on the site? Is it related to the environs of Leiston Abbey, or occupation/general agricultural land use alongside the road between the Abbey and the village?

The Regional Research Framework identifies the following, regarding rural settlement and landscape studies:

- What forms do farms take, what range of building-types are present and how far can functions be attributed to them? Are there regional or landscape variations in settlement location, density or type? How far can the size and

shape of fields be related to agricultural regimes? What is the relationship between rural and urban sites? (Medlycott 2011, 70)

## **6.6 Conclusions**

- 6.6.1 The trial trench evaluation has demonstrated that archaeological remains of probable and possible medieval date are present in the east of the Abbey View Lodges site, toward Abbey Road. The only other recorded feature relates to the modern disposal of poultry remains.
- 6.6.2 No archaeological remains are present in the west of the site. Some modern disturbance was observed in the south of the site and it is likely that further parts of the site have been impacted by its previous development and use as a holiday lodge site.
- 6.6.3 It is considered that the proposed development will have a low to negligible impact on any archaeological remains across the majority of the site, where these are present/survive. The recorded features in the east of the site are overlain by a c.06-0.8m thickness of overburden deposits; intrusive construction works will have the potential to impact these remains where they exceed such depths.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The fieldwork was undertaken by Trevor Ennis with assistance from Charley Morgan. The site survey was carried out by Nathalie Gonzalez and report figures were prepared by Andrew Lewsey. The fieldwork was project managed by Sarah Ritchie and the post-excavation process by Mark Atkinson.

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**Appendix 1: HER Summary Form**

<b>Site name/Address:</b> <i>Abbey View Lodges, Abbey Road, Leiston, Suffolk, IP16 4TA</i>	
<b>Parish:</b> <i>Leiston</i>	<b>District:</b> <i>Suffolk Coastal</i>
<b>NGR:</b> <i>TM 44399 63700</i>	<b>Event No:</b> <i>LCS228</i>
<b>Type of Work:</b> <i>Evaluation</i>	<b>Site Director/Group:</b> <i>Trevor Ennis, Archaeology South-East</i>
<b>Date of Work:</b> <i>21st – 24th August 2017</i>	<b>Size of Area Investigated:</b> <i>0.8 Hectares</i>
<b>Location of Finds/Curating Museum:</b> <i>Suffolk County Council Archive Store</i>	<b>Funding source:</b> <i>Landowner/Developer</i>
<b>Further Seasons Anticipated?:</b> <i>Not known</i>	<b>Related HER Nos:</b>
<b>Final Report:</b> <i>ADS Grey lit</i>	<b>OASIS No:</b> <i>281658</i>
<b>Periods Represented:</b> <i>Medieval, modern</i>	
<b>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</b>	
<p><i>An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Archaeology South-East in August 2017, in advance of residential development. Nine evaluation trenches were excavated, their locations being determined by the presence of concrete foundations, landscaping, planting and service runs across the former holiday lodges site.</i></p> <p><i>Three trenches contained archaeological features.</i></p> <p><i>Towards the east of the site, three linear features and two pits were recorded. One ditch contained pottery dating to the mid 13th century. It is possible that the medieval remains relate to the environs of Leiston Abbey 400m to the north, or to activity alongside the road running between it and the village of Leiston to the south.</i></p> <p><i>On the south side of the site a modern pit was found to contain the bones of buried domestic fowl.</i></p>	
<b>Previous Summaries/Reports:</b> <i>None</i>	
<b>Authors of Summary:</b> <i>Trevor Ennis &amp; Robin Wroe-Brown</i>	<b>Date of Summary:</b> <i>28th September 2017</i>

## Appendix 2: OASIS Form

### OASIS ID: archaeol6-281658

#### Project details

Project name	Abbey View Lodges, Abbey Road, Leiston
Short description of the project	<p>An archaeological evaluation was carried out in advance of residential development. Nine evaluation trenches were excavated, across the former holiday lodges site. Three trenches contained archaeological features.</p> <p>Towards the east of the site, three linear features and two pits were recorded. One ditch contained pottery dating to the mid 13th century. It is possible that the medieval remains relate to the environs of Leiston Abbey 400m to the north, or to activity alongside the road running between it and the village of Leiston to the south. On the south side of the site a modern pit was found to contain the bones of buried domestic fowl.</p>
Project dates	Start: 21-08-2017 End: 24-08-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	LCS228 – Sitecode 170323 - Contracting Unit No. ESF25501 – Event No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 14 - Recreational usage
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Metal Detectors", "Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL LEISTON Abbey View Lodges, Abbey Road, Leiston
Postcode	IP16 4TA
Study area	0.8 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 44399 63700 52.216599114228 1.578278324116 52 12 59 N 001 34 41 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 8.22m Max: 10.65m

#### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
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Project brief originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Project design originator	ASE
Project director/manager	Sarah Ritchie
Project supervisor	Trevor Ennis
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

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### **Project archives**

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Report","Section","Survey "

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### **Project bibliography**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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Entered by	Robin Wroe-Brown (r.wroe-brown@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	28 September 2017

**Appendix 3: Written Scheme of Investigation**

**Abbey View Lodges,  
Abbey Road,  
Leiston,  
Suffolk**

**Written Scheme of Investigation  
For Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching**

**NGR: TM 44399 63700**

**Suffolk Coastal District Council**

**Planning Application Number: DC/15/1588/OUT**

**ASE Project no. 170323**

**HER Parish (Site) Code: LCS 228**

**Event Number: ESF25501**

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-281658**

**April 2017**

**Archaeology South-East**

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**Abbey View Lodges,  
Abbey Road,  
Leiston,  
Suffolk**

**Written Scheme of Investigation  
For Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching**

**NGR: TM 44399 63700**

**Suffolk Coastal District Council**

**Planning Application Number: DC/15/1588/OUT**



**ASE Project no. 170323**

**HER Parish (Site) Code: LCS 228**

**Event Number: ESF25501**

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-281658**

**April 2017**

<b>Prepared by:</b>	Sarah Ritchie	Acting Project Manager	
<b>Reviewed and approved by:</b>	Andy Leonard	Project Manager	
<b>Date of Issue:</b>	10.04.2017		
<b>Revision 1:</b>	12.04.2017		
<b>Revision 2:</b>	19.04.2017		
<b>Revision 3:</b>	24.04.2017		



## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, have been commissioned by John Monk Associates LLP to undertake a phase of archaeological evaluation trenching at Abbey View Lodges, Abbey Road, Leiston, Suffolk. The Site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TM 44399 63700 and its location is shown in Figure 1.
- 1.2 The site comprises of an irregular parcel of land 0.8ha in size, currently in use as housing, bounded to the north and west by hedge row and ploughed fields; to the east by Abbey Road (B1122); and to the south by housing. The site falls within the Suffolk Coastal District Council jurisdiction.
- 1.3 An outline permission planning application has been granted at appeal with conditions (Ref: DC/15/1588/OUT, Appeal Ref: APP/J3530/W/15/3026060) by East Suffolk District Council for the construction of 8 dwellings with associated infrastructure and access. Condition 9 of this states:
- 9) No development shall take place within the site until a programme of archaeological work has been implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The scheme of investigation shall include (but not be limited to), post investigation assessment, provision for publication and dissemination of the investigation, a timetable for its various elements including implementation in relation to the construction/occupation of the dwellings.*
- 1.4 As the Local Planning Authority (LPA) had been advised that the location of the proposed development could affect important archaeological deposits, an archaeological field evaluation is required prior to the determination of the planning application. This is in order for the LPA to be able to take into account the particular nature and the significance of any below-ground heritage assets at this location and allow mitigation strategies to be developed. A *Brief for Archaeological Evaluation* was issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Conservation Team's (SCCAS/CT) in March 2017, detailing the requirements of these works.
- 1.5 This is the *Written Scheme of Investigation* for the archaeological trenched evaluation, prepared by ASE, and will be submitted to SCCAS/CT for approval prior to commencement of the work. All work will be carried out in accordance with this document and with the SCCAS/CT *Brief for an Archaeological Evaluation and Requirements*

for *Archaeological Evaluation* (2012, Version 1.3), as well as with the appropriate *Standards and Guidance* documents of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA); Historic England's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2015) and the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney, 2003).

- 1.6 In the event that a phase of mitigation work is required this would be subject to a separate Written Scheme of Investigation; any decisions regarding the requirement for further work will be made by the Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service based on the results of the archaeological evaluation.

## **2.0 Geology and Topography**

- 2.1 The solid geology of the area comprises Crag Group – sand, a sedimentary bedrock. No superficial deposits are recorded in this area. The site is located to the north of the village of Leiston, directly east of Abbey Road, the B1122. In general terms, the site is on level ground with a mean elevation of 9.50m AOD. The site consists of bungalows and landscaped lawn.

## **3.0 Archaeological Background**

- 3.1 This historical background has been compiled from information on the Heritage Gateway, The East of England Framework (Medlycott, 2011), and the Archaeological Brief (SCCAS, 2017). A full HER search has been ordered and will be incorporated into the evaluation report.

### **Prehistoric**

- 3.2 Evidence for the early prehistoric period within East Anglia has been predominately represented by the recovery of flint tools, either found as surface scatters or as chance discoveries during archaeological excavations. The evidence for the Palaeolithic period in Suffolk was examined as part of the Southern English Rivers Palaeolithic Project, revealing some evidence for in-situ deposits at Hoxne, 30km northwest and West Stow, 60km west of the site respectively. While the Mesolithic period is also represented by isolated flint tools, the National Mapping Program (NMP) has significantly enhanced the knowledge of the Neolithic period in the county. This includes the discovery of ceremonial monuments, such as the ‘hengiform’ monument and long barrow at Flixton, as well as evidence for general occupation.
- 3.3 There is very little evidence for prehistoric activity recorded within the vicinity of the site. Two Mesolithic perforated maceheads were found within a clay pit c.700m south-east of the site.
- 3.4 Over the last ten years evidence for the extensive occupation of Suffolk during the later prehistoric period has been uncovered by the results of the NMP, as well as from developer funded excavations. Excavations across Suffolk have identified evidence of Bronze Age occupation including ring ditches at Flixton Park Quarry, on the river terraces of the Waveney and enclosure sites at Chilton and Withersfield, to the west of the site. Current understanding of the Iron Age in Suffolk suggests that this period was represented by a series of unenclosed farmsteads, which has led to difficulty in identifying the plan and extent of such settlements by traditional archaeological methods (Martin, 1999).
- 3.5 There is no evidence of Bronze Age or Iron Age activity recorded within the immediate vicinity of the site.

### **Roman**

3.6 Following the Roman invasion of Britain in AD 43, East Anglia was quickly occupied by the Roman Army. Roman towns were established in the 1st century AD at Colchester, to the south of the site, and Caistor by Norwich to the north. The creation of the road system by the Roman military included a major road between these two centres across the Suffolk landscape. Evidence for Roman occupation is sparse although a shore fort was established at the mouth of the River Deben at Felixstowe during the late 3rd century AD.

3.7 Two bronze 1<sup>st</sup> century Roman sestertii were found c.93m south of the site (MSF11527), and a 3<sup>rd</sup> century Roman coin was located c.230m south-west of the site during hedge cutting (MSF11528). A Roman pottery kiln was recorded during monitoring of groundworks c.170m south-west of the site (LCS142, TM 44329 63539), and Roman pottery scatters have been located c.600m east of the site (MSF11524 & MSF12096).

### **Saxon/Early medieval**

3.8 The Anglo-Saxon period is represented in Suffolk most famously through the discovery of the Sutton Hoo ship burial, a royal burial site located approximately c. 20km south-west of the site (Evans, 1986). The settlements of Melton and Woodbridge, 19 km south-west, both had origins in the Saxon period. Melton was in the possession of the Abbot of Ely during the Late Saxon period and Melton Old Church possibly has a Saxon predecessor, although there is no archaeological evidence to substantiate this theory (Benthan, 1981, 14). Woodbridge was first mentioned in documentary evidence in 970 AD and it has been suggested that the origins of the name 'Woodbridge' derives from 'Woden burh' or Woden's town (Weaver & Weaver, 1978, 4). While Sutton Hoo is well known nationally, the Saxon period is also well reflected elsewhere in the county, such as the reconstructed village at West Stow, 80km to the north-west.

3.9 The only Saxon activity within the vicinity of the site consists of a pottery scatter dating to c.85-1100AD c.600m east of the site (MSF12097).

### **Medieval**

3.10 Prior to the Norman Conquest, Domesday records list Leiston as having 27 villagers, 27 small holders, 7 slaves and 56 freemen. The Lord was Edric (of Laxfield) who had 56 freemen.

3.11 In 1086 the Lords are recorded as Fulcred; Gilbert; Robert Malet, the tenant in chief was Robert Malet and the total population is large: 117 households with a total tax assessment of 21.9 geld units. There were 27 villagers. 27 smallholders. 7 slaves. 56 free men, 11 Lord's plough teams, 10.5 mens plough teams, 6 acres of meadow, woodland, 5 cobs, 7 cattle, 272 pigs, 1 mill and 3 churches.

- 3.12 The mainly 14th century remains of Leiston Abbey lie c.500m north of the site. It was originally built in 1182 under the patronage of Ranulf de Granville, Lord Chief Justice to Henry II, on the marshes of Minsmere. Although the inhabitants braved wet and windswept conditions for nearly 200 years, the site flooded repeatedly and, by 1363, they had it dismantled, moved stone-by-stone and rebuilt a few miles inland. The abbey was home to The Premonstratensians, a little-known order who wore white habits and were known as the White Canons. They weren't monks, but ordained priests whose duties included preaching and pastoral work. They are one of the only orders who regarded sisters and brothers on equal footing – in several cases, male and female communities lived next to each other and would share a church.
- 3.13 The Grade II\* listed church of St. Margaret lies 1.3km south-west of the site (DSF11148). The original church was pulled down in 1853 except for a 15th century tower which was preserved.
- 3.14 Immediately to the north of the site a scatter of metalwork was discovered by a farmer, which included medieval coins and Nuremberg tokens (MSF11526), and a medieval silver groat of Heinrich V (MSF14283). A 12<sup>th</sup> century coin hoard was discovered c.600m east of the site (MSF26809), as were pottery scatters (MSF11524 & MSF12096).

#### **Post Medieval & Modern**

- 3.15 Leiston's main street was formerly a turnpike road, one of three roads controlled by the Aldeburgh Turnpike Trust (1792), connecting that coastal town to the main road from London to Great Yarmouth (now the A12). In the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, most of Leiston's trade was conducted via Slaughden Quay at Aldeburgh, coastal shipping being faster, safer, and more convenient than road transportation by horse and cart. Later the town was also served by a branch of the Ipswich to Lowestoft railway line, formerly the East Suffolk Railway which first opened in 1859. The branch line ran from the station at Saxmundham, through Leiston, where a privately-owned spur led into Garrett's Works. The branch line carried onwards to Thorpeness and Aldeburgh. Today it remains as a 'goods only' line servicing the nuclear power station at Sizewell.
- 3.16 The site itself is located c.1km north of Leiston High Street, and until the early 1900's, consisted of the northern-most section of a large rectangular field orientated north-south immediately to the east of Abbey Road. By 1920, the field had been developed into thin east-west housing plots, with the site itself consisting of a house and orchard fronting onto Abbey Road to the east, and open land in the west of the site. There is very little change to the site before the 1970's, after which the existing bungalows were built.

## 4.0 Research Aims and Objectives

4.1 The general aims of this phase of archaeological investigation are:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
- To determine the extent, condition, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered.
- To determine the extent of any previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
- To enable the Archaeological Officer at SCCAS/CT to make an informed decision regarding any possible requirements for further work.
- To make the results of the investigation publicly accessible through submission of a report to the Suffolk County Council Historic Environment Record and of the project archive to the local museum.

4.2 Specific research aims, taking into account the *Research and Archaeology Framework for the Eastern Counties (Parts 1 and 2)* and the *Revised Framework for the East of England*, are to:

- Determine the presence/absence and significance of any evidence of Roman and medieval activity within this location
- Determine the presence/absence and significance of any later activity on the site

## 5.0 Methodology

5.1 Five trenches measuring 30m x 1.8m; four measuring 15m x 1.8m and one measuring 10m x 1.8m will be opened in the locations shown (Figure 2). This comprises a 5% sample of the site, as specified in the archaeological brief (SCCAS, 2017). The trenches are not targeted, but have been placed to avoid the footprints of existing building plots and known services. A Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) will be prepared prior to commencement of the work.

5.2 ASE have obtained Event and Parish codes from the Suffolk HER Officer. The Parish Code will be used to mark all primary records, both physical and paper and the Event Code will be denoted on all reports relating to the project.

5.3 The trenches will be accurately located using offsets from known positions or a Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS) and DGPS

Total Station (Leica 1205 R100 Total Station, Leica System 1200 GPS).

- 5.4 Spoil will be bunded around the edges of the trenches to provide a physical and visible barrier.
- 5.5 All trenches will be scanned prior to excavation using a CAT scanner. Removal of topsoil (and subsoil if present and devoid of archaeological features) will be undertaken using a tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket at least 1.8m wide, under the direct supervision of an ASE archaeologist. Deposits will be removed in spits no greater than 250mm in thickness and all deposits will be examined for finds. Topsoil and subsoil will be stored separately and replaced in sequence.
- 5.6 Machine excavation will be carried down on to the top of archaeological deposits or the surface of natural deposits, whichever is uppermost. Care will be taken not to machine off seemingly homogenous layers that may include the upper parts of archaeological features. The resultant surfaces will be cleaned as necessary to expose any archaeological remains.
- 5.7 A metal detector will be used throughout the programme of work. The person allocated to undertaking the metal detecting will be named nearer the commencement of the evaluation (currently set for early July 2017), however the named person will be someone with extensive experience of metal detecting. Specific requirements for the metal detecting will be (as a minimum):
- Prior to the excavation of trenches
  - Throughout the excavation of trenches
  - Trench bases and spoil heaps will be scanned
  - Feature fills will be scanned
- 5.8 Any features identified will be hand-excavated and planned using GPS by an ASE Surveyor. The Surveyor will plot excavated features and record levels in close consultation with the site Supervisor and/or the excavators. Where it is deemed necessary (for example in the event of detailed structural features or burials), features will be hand planned at a scale of 1:20 and then digitised.
- 5.9 All features will be excavated sufficiently to understand their character, but demonstrably modern disturbances will only be excavated as necessary in order to properly define and evaluate any features that they may cut. Slots across linear features will be at least 1m in width, if achievable and discrete features will be half-sectioned wherever possible. Hand excavation of features will be carefully undertaken and will follow the stratigraphy of any encountered archaeological layers, features and/or deposits. In certain circumstances hand excavation by pick and/or mattock and shovel may be undertaken but will only be

utilised in respect of homogenous low-grade deposits. Such techniques will not be used in situations where careful hand excavation is required such as burials.

- 5.10 Should any human burials or remains be encountered, SCCAS/CT and the Coroner's Office will be immediately informed and excavation will cease until the relevant Ministry of Justice licence has been obtained. Should approval be granted for excavation of the human remains, it will be carried out in accordance with ClfA Professional Practice Paper 7: *Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains* (Brickley and McKinley 2004) and ClfA Technical Paper 13: *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains* (McKinley & Roberts 1993).
- 5.11 The provisions of the *Treasure Act* of 1996, amended 2003, will be observed. Should finds of precious metals such as gold and silver and other finds as defined under the Act be made, they will be reported to the Suffolk Finds Liaison Officer who will in turn inform the local Coroner. Should the removal of such objects be unable to be made during the same working day, suitable and appropriate security arrangement will be made to deposit them with the local Coroner's Office.
- 5.12 The site work will be directed by a member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA) with experience of prehistoric landscapes.
- 5.13 The client and SCCAS/CT shall be informed at the earliest opportunity of any archaeological features or deposits worthy of preservation. Archaeology South-East will liaise directly with SCCAS/CT to arrange visits to review fieldwork. No trenches will be backfilled without prior authorisation.
- 5.14 An OASIS online record will be compiled for the project.

## **6.0 Recording Methodology**

- 6.1 All work will be carried out in line with Suffolk County Council's *Requirements for Archaeological Evaluation* (SCCAS 2012, Version 1.3) and in line with relevant ClfA guidance documents (ClfA 2014).
- 6.2 All exposed features will be recorded according to current professional standards using the standard context record sheets and masonry sheets used by ASE employing a single context recording system.
- 6.3 All structural and other relationships will be recorded and a structural matrix created.
- 6.4 A full photographic record will be made of all significant archaeological features comprising colour digital images. In addition, working shots and elements of interest (individual features and group shots) will be



taken. All photographs will include a board that will detail: the site code, date, context number, section number, a scale and a north arrow. All photographs will be fully indexed and cross-referenced on ASE context sheets and photographic registers. The photographic register will include: film number, shot number, location of shot, direction of shot and a brief description of the subject photographed.

- 6.5 Detailed elevation and/or section drawings will be hand-drawn at 1:10 on plastic draughting film (permatrace).
- 6.6 If deposits suitable for environmental sampling are encountered (such as dated excavated contexts of buried soils, well-sealed slowly silting features, sealed hearths, sealed features containing evident carbonised remains, peats, water-logged or cess deposits), bulk soil samples (40 litres or 100% of smaller features) will be taken for environmental analysis. Bulk samples will be processed using tank flotation unless considered detrimental to the samples or recovery rate (such as for waterlogged samples). Bulk samples will target recovery of plant remains (charcoal and macrobotanicals), fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone, and small artefacts. Waterlogged samples will be wet sieved through nested sieves and stored in wet, cool conditions or dried if considered an appropriate form of conservation for the remains. Specialist samples may also be taken from dry or waterlogged contexts. Such samples will target recovery of pollen (using monolith tins), molluscs, foraminifera, parasites and insects. Larger samples (80-100 litres) will be extracted wholesale from deposits rich in marine molluscs and large mammal bones. As a general rule, waterlogged wood specimens will be recorded in detail in their original location. If removed they will be cleaned, photographed and a thin section sample will be taken for identification. Specimens will either be stored in wet cool conditions or dried if considered appropriate for the material. In all instances deposits with clear intrusive material shall be avoided.
- 6.7 The exact level and detail of recording will meet the standards defined above, but will remain flexible and will be reviewed regularly on site with the SCCAS/CT.

## **7.0 Post-Excavation Methodology and Reporting**

- 7.1 All finds will be cleaned, labelled, sorted and analysed in accordance with the practices and standards outlined in the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's *Conservation Guidelines No.2: Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990). Most ceramic and other building material and burnt flint will be identified, counted, weighed and discarded. Samples will be retained as appropriate. Finds will be bagged in polythene bags according to type and context.

- 7.2 Suitable arrangements will be made for the conservation of artefacts where appropriate in consultation and with the agreement of the Archaeological Service. All finds in an unstable condition will be stabilised using passive conservation techniques where appropriate before being deposited with the Archaeological Service.
- 7.3 The majority of finds will be identified by in-house specialists within Archaeology South-East (see Appendix 1). Any external specialists utilised work regularly with ASE and are regional specialists in their field. All material will be examined with particular attention to datable artefacts, such as lithics, pottery, building material, coins and other metalwork.
- 7.4 Upon completion of the fieldwork, the site archive will be assembled, and will contain all the data collected during the excavation including records, finds and environmental samples. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent.
- 7.5 An evaluation report including plans, digital photographs and drawings will be prepared within four weeks of completion of the site work, subject to the production of any necessary specialist reports. It will include a record of all materials recovered and all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. It will also contain a site summary and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data. **The report will include the results of an updated SHER search (the SHER Invoice Search Reference will be quoted in the report).**
- 7.6 The report will be in line with guidelines set out in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (Historic England 2015).
- 7.7 An Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) form will be completed at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> following the completion of the Assessment report and included as an appendix.
- 7.8 A draft copy of the report will be sent to the client and SCCAS/CT, for comment and approval. Once the report has been accepted further copies and one electronic copy in PDF format will be sent to the local planning authorities and the client as appropriate. A hard copy of the approved report will also be submitted to the HER.
- 7.9 A copy of the report will be supplied to the SHER on the understanding that it will become a public document after an appropriate period of time not exceeding six months.
- 7.10 Agreement shall be reached with the client and SCCAS/CT regarding the format and destination of any subsequent publication(s) arising from the investigations. Proposals for publication, if appropriate, will be

detailed in the post-excavation assessment report and timescales and costs for a publication programme will be agreed at that stage. As a minimum, provision will be made for a summary of the evaluation results in the annual PSIAH round-up.

7.11 Upon completion of the final report for publication, the archive will be prepared for deposition in accordance with the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage* (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation 1990) and *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1994) and the SCCAS Archive Guidelines (SCCAS 2014).

7.12 Finds from the fieldwork will be kept with the archival material and permission will be sought from the landowner to deposit the finds and paper archive with the SCCAS.

## **8.0 Health and Safety**

8.1 A Risk Assessment will be produced and agreed with the client prior to the commencement of the work. All relevant main contractor health and safety regulations will be adhered to.

## **9.0 Staffing and Equipment**

9.1 The lead Archaeologist assigned to the project will be responsible for fieldwork, post-excavation reporting and archiving in liaison with the relevant specialists and under the overall direction of the fieldwork project manager (Sarah Ritchie) and the post-excavation project manager (Mark Atkinson). On-site assistance will be provided by a Surveyor and Archaeological Assistants.

9.2 SCCAS/CT will be informed of the identity of the lead Archaeologist before the commencement of fieldwork and also will be notified should any subsequent change of personnel occur. CVs of all key staff are available on request.

9.3 Specialists who may be consulted are listed in Appendix 1.

9.4 Other specialists may be consulted if necessary. These will be made known to the monitoring officer for approval prior to consultation. Similarly, any changes in the specialist list will be made known to the monitoring officer for approval prior to consultation.

## **10.0 Insurance**

10.1 Archaeology South-East is insured against claims for: public and products liability to the value of £50,000,000 any one event for all claims in the aggregate during any one period of insurance; employers' liability to the value of £50,000,000 any one event inclusive of costs;

professional indemnity to the value of £15,000,000 any one claim / aggregate any one period of insurance.

## **11.0 Monitoring**

- 11.1 Provision will be made at all stages of the project for SCCAS/CT to monitor progress and standards. Provision will be made for SCCAS/CT to make site monitoring visits at agreed and specified times.

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**APPENDIX 1**

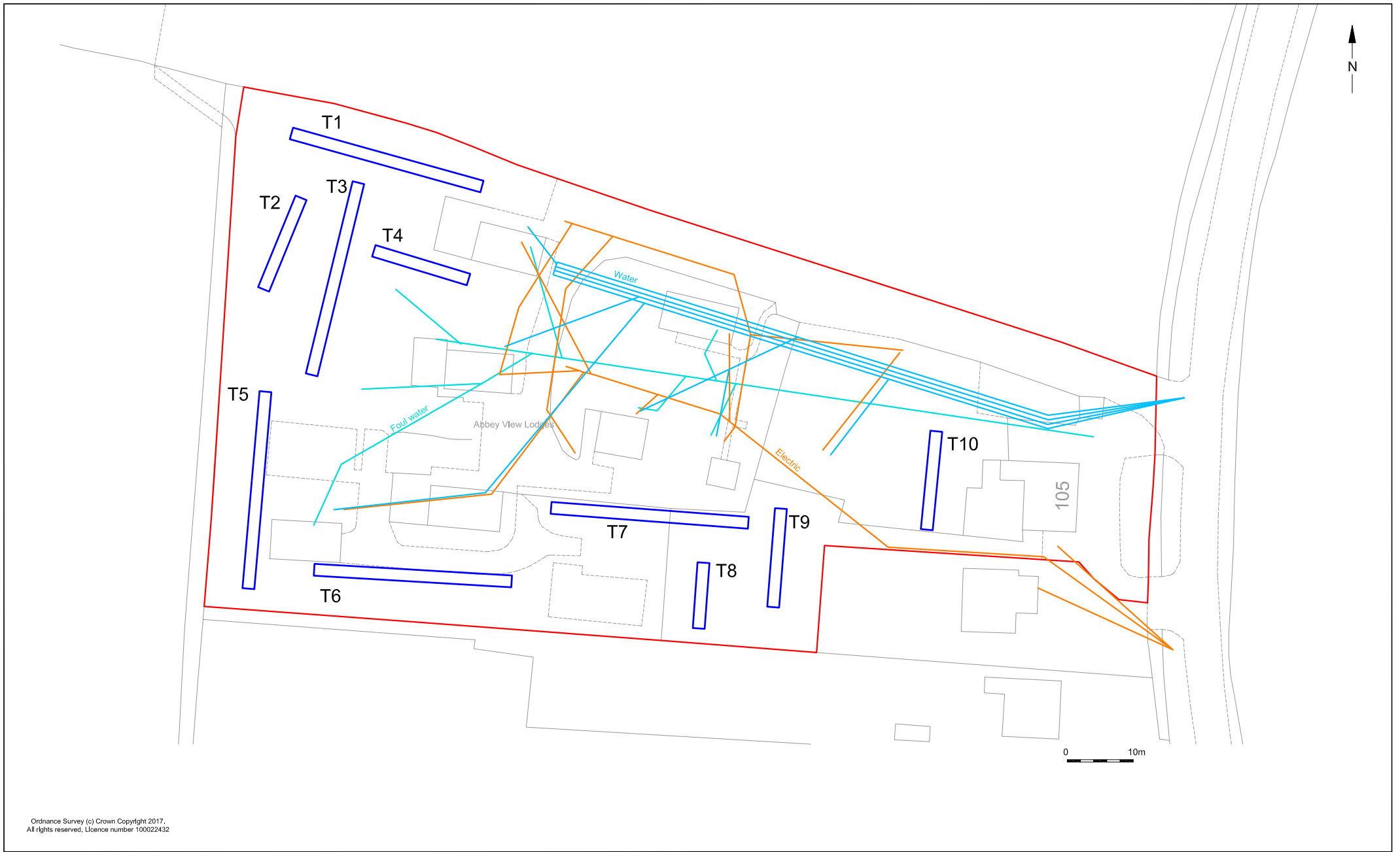
Specialists to be used as necessary:

Prehistoric and Roman pottery	Louise Rayner & Anna Doherty (ASE)
Prehistoric	Nick Lavender (external: Essex region)
Post-Roman pottery	Luke Barber (external: Sussex, Kent and London)
Post-Roman pottery (Essex)	Helen Walker (external: Essex)
CBM	Sue Pringle & Luke Barber (external)
Fired Clay	Elke Raemen & Trista Clifford (ASE)
Clay Tobacco Pipe	Elke Raemen (ASE)
Glass	Elke Raemen (ASE)
Slag	Luke Barber, Lynne Keyes (external); Trista Clifford (ASE)
Metalwork	Trista Clifford (ASE)
Worked Flint	Karine Le Hégarat (ASE); Hugo Anderson-Whymark (external)
Geological material and worked stone	Luke Barber (external)
Human bone incl cremated bone	Lucy Sibun (ASE)
Animal bone incl fish	Hayley Forsyth (ASE)
Marine shell	Elke Raemen (ASE); David Dunkin (external)
Registered Finds	Elke Raemen & Trista Clifford (ASE)
Coins	Trista Clifford (ASE)
Treasure administration	Trista Clifford (ASE)
Conservation and x-ray	Fishbourne Roman Villa or UCL Institute of Archaeology
Geoarchaeology	Dr Matt Pope (ASE)
Geoarchaeology (incl wetland environments)	Kristina Krawiec (ASE)
Macro-plant remains	Dr Lucy Allott & Karine Le Hégarat (ASE)
Charcoal & Waterlogged wood	Dr Lucy Allott (ASE)



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Project Ref: 170323	Apr 2017	Site location		
Report No: WSI	Drawn by: APL			



© Archaeology South-East		Abbey View Lodges, Leiston	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 170323	Apr 2017	Proposed trench locations with existing services	
Report Ref: WSI	Drawn by: APL		



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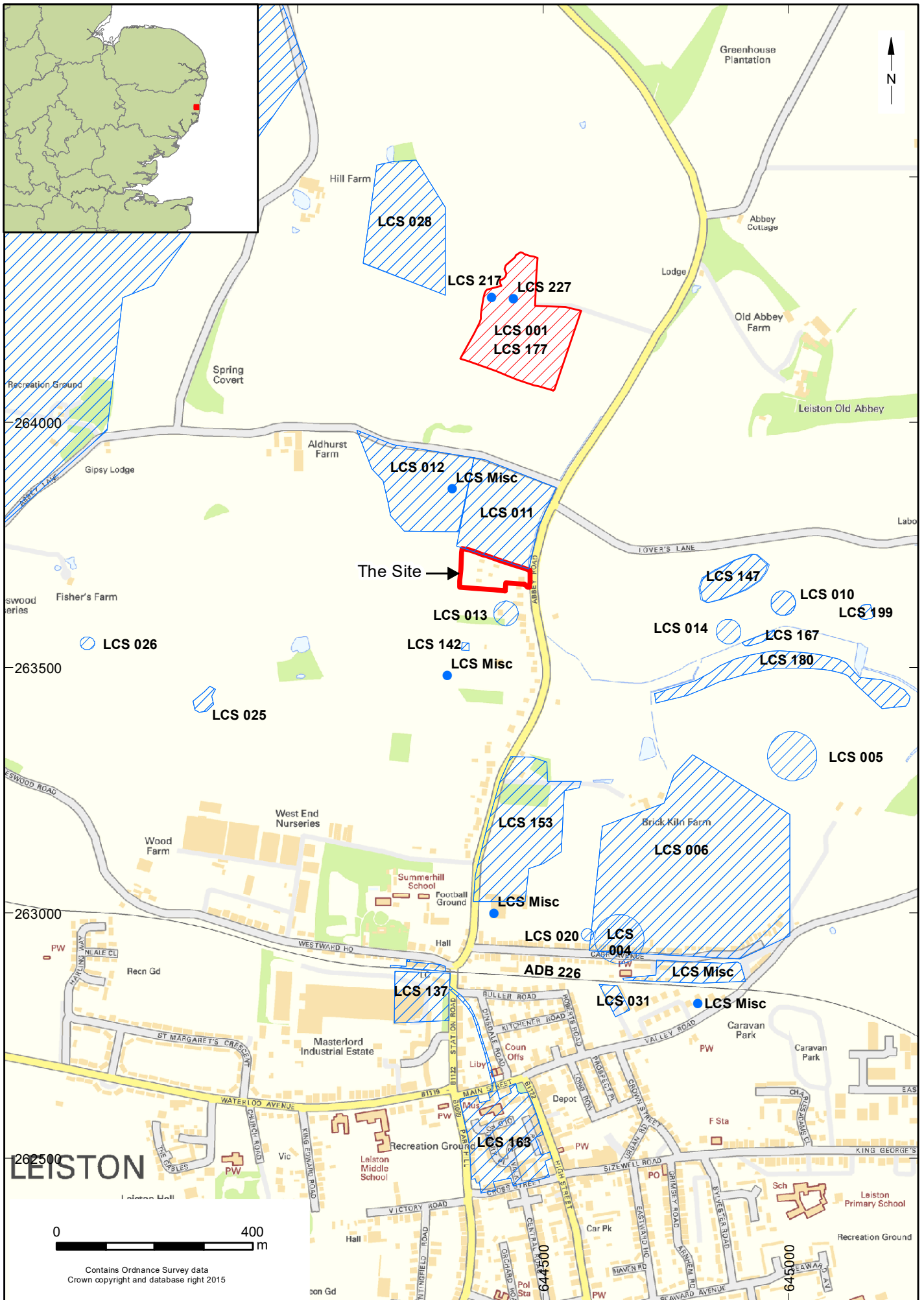
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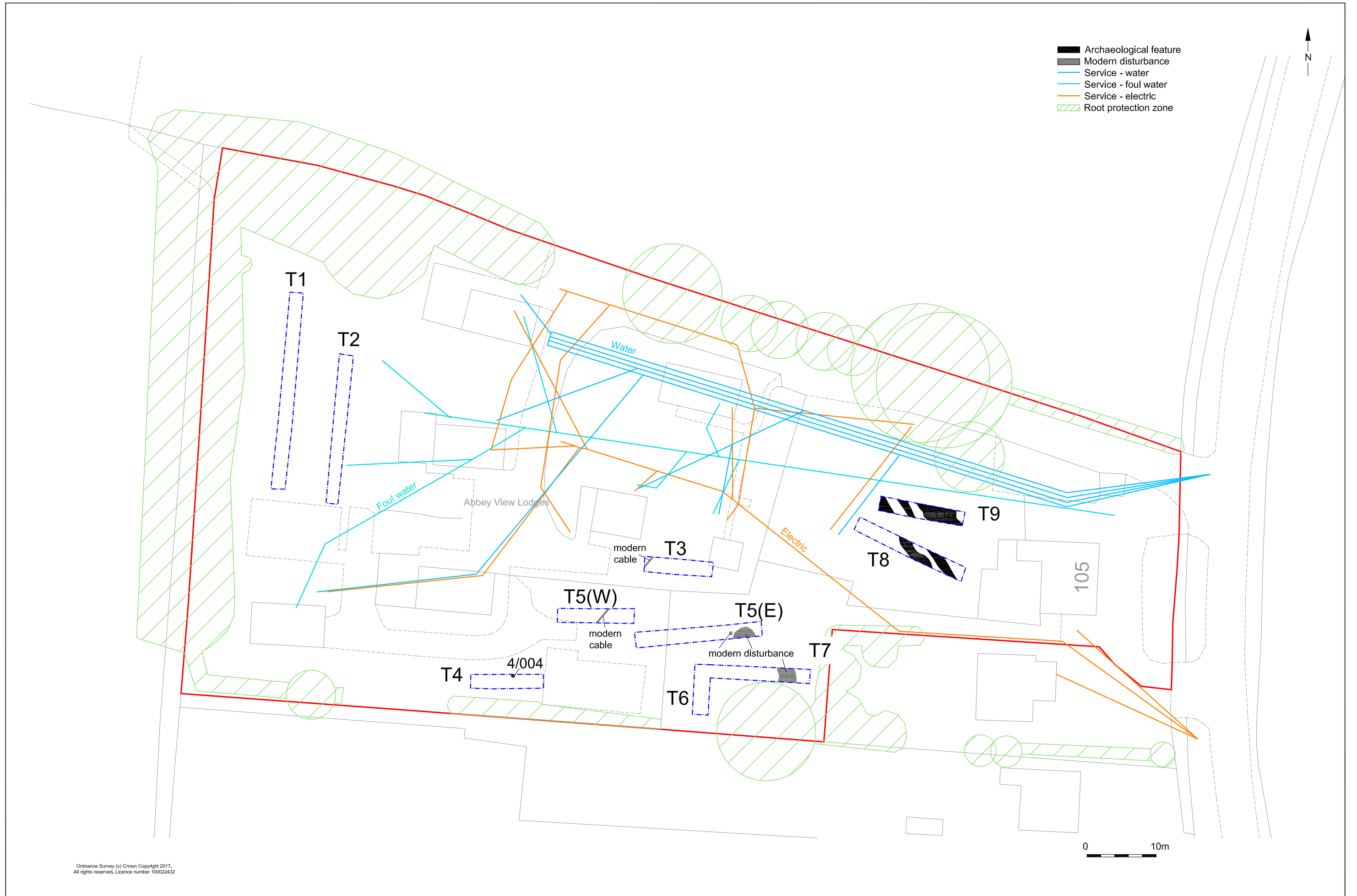
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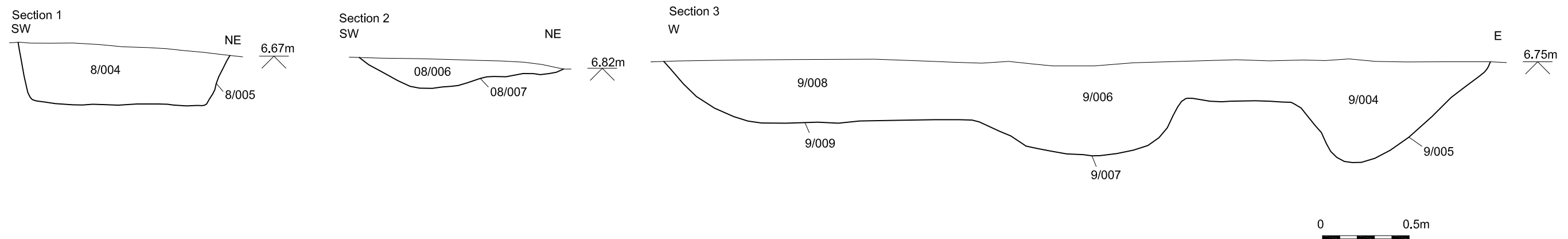
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Project Ref: 170323	Apr 2017	Site location with Suffolk HER references		
Report No: 2017398	Drawn by: APL			

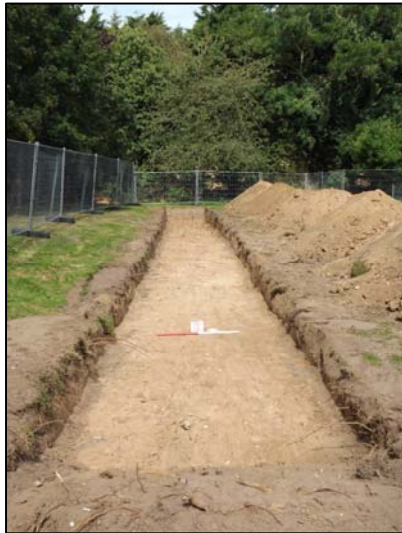


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Project Ref: 170323	Sept 2017	Trench locations with site constraints	
Report Ref: 2017398	Drawn by: APL		







Trench 1, 1m scale



Trench 2, 1m scale



Trench 3, 1m scale



Trench 4, 1m scale



Trench 6, 1m scale



Trench 7, 1m scale

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Project Ref: 170323	Sept 2017	Selected trench photographs	
Report Ref: 2017398	Drawn by: APL		

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