
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**HARDWICK INDUSTRIAL ESTATE,
BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION
(PHASE 1)**

Author: Dan McConnell BSc	
NGR: TL 8570 6314	Report No. 2011
District: Bury St Edmunds	Site Code: BSE 274
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. P2243
Signed:	Date: March/July 2006

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Hardwick Industrial Estate, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.</i>		
Project description (250 words)	<p><i>During March and July 2006 Archaeological Solutions Ltd carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation over 2 Phases at Hardwick Industrial Estate, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (NGR TL 8570 6320) (AS Report No.2011).</i></p> <p><i>Bury St Edmunds has its origins in the early to middle Saxon period and had national influence at least until the end of the medieval period. In the post medieval period it has been a successful centre of agricultural production and trade. The site lies within an area where archaeological remains are likely to occur. To the north (200m) of the site is the putative line of the town's defences, which are thought to have begun as a ditch in the early 11th century with town walls and gates being constructed in the late 11th or early 12th. Also nearby (c.275m to the north-east) a significant middle Palaeolithic assemblage was found (BSE 065). An earlier excavation by AS to the north of the area of investigation (McConnell, 2005) revealed deep modern overburden.</i></p> <p><i>The trial trench evaluations revealed little archaeological evidence. It did however show that modern truncation has not affected the far eastern and western sectors of the site. The southern and northern areas appear to have suffered from modern truncation.</i></p>		
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>29/03/06 – 31/03/06 and 03/07/06 – 05/07/06</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>Y</i>
P. number	<i>P2243</i>	Site code	<i>BSE274</i>
Type of project	<i>An archaeological evaluation</i>		
Site status			
Current land use	<i>Small scale industrial units</i>		
Planned development	<i>Housing redevelopment</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>None.</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>None</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Suffolk</i>	<i>Bury St Edmunds</i>	<i>Bury St Edmunds</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Suffolk HER</i>		
Post code (if known)			
Area of site			
NGR	<i>TL 8570 6314</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>c. 37.50m to 51.54m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>SCC AS Conservation Team</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Dan McConnell BSc</i>		
Funded by	<i>Land Charter Homes plc</i>		
Full title	<i>Hardwick Industrial Estate, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk: An Archaeological Evaluation (Phase 1)</i>		
Authors	<i>Dan McConnell BSc</i>		<i>2</i>
Report no.	<i>2011</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>March 2006</i>		

HARDWICK INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION (PHASE 1)

SUMMARY

In March and July 2006 Archaeological Solutions Ltd carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation over two Phases at Hardwick Industrial Estate, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (NGR TL 8570 6314) (AS Report No. 2011).

Bury St Edmunds has its origins in the early to middle Saxon period and had national influence at least until the end of the medieval period. In the post medieval period it has been a successful centre of agricultural production and trade.

The site lies within an area where archaeological remains are likely to occur. To the north (200m) of the area of investigation is the putative line of the town's defences, which are thought to have begun as a ditch in the early 11th century with town walls and gates being constructed in the late 11th or early 12th. Also nearby (.c275m to the north-east) a significant middle Palaeolithic assemblage was uncovered (BSE 065). An earlier excavation by AS to the north of the area of investigation (McConnell, 2005) revealed deep modern overburden.

The trial trench evaluations revealed little archaeological evidence. It did however show that modern truncation has not affected the far eastern and western sectors of the site. The southern and northern areas appear to have suffered from modern truncation.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In March and July 2006 Archaeological Solutions Ltd carried out two archaeological evaluations of Hardwick Industrial Estate, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (NGR TL 8570 6314) (Figs.1-2). It was undertaken in advance of the proposed redevelopment of the site for housing, and was commissioned by Land Charter Homes plc.

12 The archaeological evaluation was conducted in accordance with a brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCC AS - advisors to the local planning authority) (dated 10/01/06) and a specification prepared by AS (dated 21/02/06). It complied with IFA *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments and Evaluations* (1999), and with the relevant sections of the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14 (Gurney 2003). The brief also required an archaeological desk-based assessment of the site and an appraisal of the former Flax Factory Buildings. The results of these phases of work will be presented as separate reports.

1.3 The principal objectives for the evaluation as a whole were:

- To establish whether any archaeological deposits exist in the area with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.
- To identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- To establish the depth of any foundations of former structures which may need to be grubbed out to permit new foundations.
- To evaluate whether or not waterlogged organic deposits are likely to be present within the area of the proposed development.
- To provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Bury St Edmunds is located at the confluence of the Rivers Lark and Linnet and on the A14 trunk road. Stowmarket lies *c.* 20km to the east south east, and Sudbury *c.* 22.5km to the south south east. The closest settlement of any size to Bury St Edmunds is Great Barton, *c.* 4km to the north east, but the surrounding landscape is mainly composed of isolated farms and small villages.

2.2 The site is sub rectangular, with a sub-square promontory extending to the north (Fig 2). It is situated on the south side of Cullum Road (the A1302) which forms part of a ring road around the historic core of Bury St Edmunds. The River Linnet passes *c.* 1250m to the north.

SITE BACKGROUND

3.1 Geological and topographic background

3.1.1 The site is located on a mix of open and industrial land to the south of Bury St Edmund's historic core. The river Linnet lies *c.* 1250m to the north of the site, flowing eastwards and turning to the north east some 1000m north east of the site. It flows into No Man's Meadows where it joins via a series of channels with the River Lark.

3.1.2 The solid geology of the region is of Cretaceous Chalk; Bury lies on the northern edge of a patch of glacial outwash gravels overlying the chalk, but to the north of this, the chalk bedrock is exposed with no overlying drift (Wymer 1988, 18). The soil of the site itself is not known, but the broad area surrounding Bury St Edmunds to the west, south and east has soils of the Melford association (deep, well drained fine loamy over clayey, coarse loamy over clayey and fine loamy soils, some with calcareous clayey subsoils) (SSEW 1983). To the immediate west and east of the town, along the rivers Linnet and Lark are thin bands of Swaffham Prior association soils (well drained calcareous coarse and fine loamy soils over chalk rubble; some similar shallow soils; deep non-calcareous loamy soils in places; striped and polygonal soil patterns locally) (SSEW 1983).

3.1.3 The site lies at *c.* 37m AOD at its southern edge; land south of the site rises steeply, while to the north and west is the level ground of the Lark and Linnet's floodplains. It is not flat, but dips heavily towards its northern extent; the highest point appears to be towards its south west corner. The site is still in use as small industrial units, but trees and scrub grow along its northern edges and its main area is covered in concrete hardstanding and post World War 2 industrial units. Modern bricks were visible in debris lying at the raised ground on the site's northern edge. The south of the site has been machined into the side of the steeply rising hill to form a level plain. Cullum Road forms the northern boundary to the site, with a smaller access road bounding the eastern edge.

3.2 Archaeological and historical background

3.2.1 Bury St Edmunds has its origins in the early to middle Saxon period and had national influence at least until the end of the medieval period. In the post medieval period it has been a successful centre of agricultural production and trade.

3.2.2 The site lies 1000m immediately south of the putative line of the town's defences, which are thought to have begun as a ditch in the early 11th century with town walls and gates being constructed in the late 11th or early 12th. It is unlikely that evidence of these defences or features relating to their construction will be present in the northern part of the site. The site is located on the floodplain of the Linnet, and an archaeological evaluation further to the north west has suggested that the Linnet may once have flowed along the presumed line of the town defences (BSE 165) therefore it is unlikely that any settlement evidence will be uncovered. The abundance of drains and ditches in the vicinity of the site, the marshy nature of the land to the immediate north and the recorded presence of a peaty deposit in an excavated section at the Grindle all suggest that waterlogged deposits in a good state of preservation could possibly be encountered at the northern limits of the site.

3.2.3 Throughout the post medieval to modern periods, cartographic sources show that the site has been open land (used in the post medieval period as pasture), and then as a large scale industrial laundry site, with an administrative area being built at the sites eastern limits (Headway House). It has latterly been in mixed use as industrial units.

3.2.4 The brief notes the archaeological potential of the site, which is located just outside an Area of Archaeological Importance designated on the Local Plan. It lies adjacent to the medieval Almoner's Barns (SMR No. BSE 162, situated on the southern side of Cullum Road), and is close to an area where human burials were found in the 19th century (BSE 065), being part of the Monastery of St Edmund. The brief also notes the discovery of Saxon burials in Barons Road and also further burials some 200m to the west of the site (BSE 028 & 007). The brief also notes the presence of a former flax factory on the site, developed in the early years of the 20th century, but described as disused on later 1920s OS map editions, later converted for use as a laundry.

3.2.5 An archaeological evaluation carried out by AS on land to the north at Almoner's Field in 1995 revealed widespread previous ground disturbance and no archaeological remains (McConnell 2005).

4 METHODOLOGY ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

Figs. 2 & 3

4.1 Phase 1

Six trenches were fully excavated; Trench 2 was curtailed in agreement with Mr Robert Carr (SCC AS Conservation Team), following a test pit which revealed modern service trenches truncating the area to be investigated. The size of Trench 5 was increased to make up for the loss of Trench 2.

Trench number	Dimensions	Alignment
1	4m x 1.60m	E – W
2	Abandoned	E – W
3	4m x 1.60m	E – W
4	4m x 1.60m	N – S
5	22m x 1.60m	N – S
6	17m x 1.60m	N – S
7	4m x 1.60m	E – W

Table 1 Dimensions and alignments of Phase 1 trial trenches

4.2 Phase 2

Another six trenches were fully excavated within the less truncated area of the eastern industrial estate due to the sample size of the site being increased to 5% on the advice of Mr Robert Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team). The trench locations were altered to fit in with modern service runs, trees and buildings still in use. Trench 1 was divided into two due to health and safety reasons. Trenches 2 and 3 were divided into two due to service trenches bi-secting their original path. Trench 5 was entirely relocated due to buildings still occupied on its original location. Trench 6's length was curtailed, and Trench 4's length was increased to compensate for this.

Trench number	Dimensions	Alignment
1a	18m x 1.80m	N – S
1b	12m x 1.80m	E – W
2a	28m x 1.80m	E – W
2b	14m x 1.80m	E – W
3a	17m x 1.80m	E – W
3b	17m x 1.80m	N – S
4	31m x 1.80m	N – S
5	23m x 1.80m	N – S
6	24m x 1.80m	E – W

Table 2 Dimensions and alignments of Phase 2 trial trenches

4.3 The trenches were excavated using a mechanical 180° excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Their locations were approved by SCC AS. Undifferentiated

overburden was mechanically excavated; thereafter all further investigation was undertaken by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned as appropriate and examined for archaeological features and finds. Archaeological features and deposits were recorded by means of *pro-forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed. Excavated spoil was checked for finds and metal detector was used to scan the trenches.

5 RESULTS Figs 2 & 3; Plates

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

5.1 Phase 1

5.1.1 Trench 1 Fig.3 Plates 1 & 2

<i>Sample section: West end, South facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 36.30m AOD	
0.00 – 0.09m	L1000. Modern concrete hardstanding. Light grey/white concrete.
0.09 – 0.42m	L1001. Modern hardcore rubble levelling layer. Mid yellow/brown non-cohesive silty sand with frequent angular 20 th century CBM <200mm and frequent sub-angular flint/limestone gravel <20mm.
0.42 – 0.66m	L1002. Buried post-medieval topsoil. Dark brown/grey, non-cohesive silty sand with moderate sub-angular flint gravel <20mm.
0.66 – 0.95m	L1003. Buried subsoil. Mid grey/brown, cohesive silty sand with occasional angular flint gravel <10mm.
0.95m+	L1004. Colluvial layer. Mid yellow/brown cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint gravel <25mm.

Description: No archaeological features were present in Trench 1. The area appears to have been covered with at least 0.48m+ of colluvium (L1004). Two pieces of stuck flint were found within L1004. The trench was not excavated down to natural sub-soil deposits due to depth of excavation.

5.1.2 Trench 2

Description: This trench was curtailed following a test pit which identified a significant depth of modern service trenching within the area of investigation.

5.1.3 Trench 3 Fig.3, Plates 3 & 4

<i>Sample section: West end, South facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 37.10m AOD	
0.00 – 0.10m	L1000. Modern concrete hardstanding. See above.
0.10 – 0.14m	L1001. Modern hardcore rubble levelling layer. See above.
0.14m+	L1005. Natural chalk bedrock. Light grey/white cohesive chalk with occasional patches of natural mid orange/brown cohesive boulder clay.

Description: No archaeological features were present in Trench 3.

The area appears to have been heavily truncated likely during the construction of the car parks for the 20th century laundry buildings.

5.1.4 Trench 4 Fig.3, Plates 5 & 6

<i>Sample section: North end, West facing section.</i> 0.00 = 37.20m AOD	
0.00 – 0.11m	L1000. Modern concrete hardstanding. See above.
0.11 – 0.21m	L1001. Modern hardcore rubble levelling layer. See above.
0.21m+	L1005. Natural chalk bedrock. Light grey/white cohesive chalk with occasional patches of natural mid orange/brown cohesive boulder clay.

Description: No archaeological features were present in Trench 4.

Again, the area appeared to have been heavily truncated likely during the construction of the car parks for the 20th century laundry buildings

5.1.5 Trench 5 Fig.3, Plates 7 & 8

<i>Sample section: North end, West facing section.</i> 0.00 = 49.71m AOD	
0.00 – 0.13m	L1006. Topsoil. Dark brown/black, non-cohesive silty sand with sub-angular/angular flint gravel <40mm.
0.13 – 0.33m	L1007. Subsoil. Dark brown/grey/orange, non-cohesive silty sand with moderate sub-angular flint gravel <20mm.
0.33 – 0.72m	L1008. Colluvial layer. Mid orange/grey/brown, cohesive silty sand with moderate sub-angular flint gravel <50mm.
0.72 – 1.06m	L1009. Colluvial layer. Mid orange/brown, cohesive silty sand with moderate sub-angular riverwashed flint gravel <40mm.
1.06m+	L1010. Natural. Mid yellow/orange/brown non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint gravel <50mm and frequent light yellow/green/brown non-cohesive sand pockets and degraded chalk fragments.

<i>Sample section: South end, East facing section.</i> 0.00 = 51.10m AOD	
0.00 – 0.12m	L1006. Topsoil. See above.
0.12 – 0.32m	L1007. Subsoil. See above.
0.32m+	L1008. Colluvial layer. See above.

Description: Two linear features (F1015 and F1016) were revealed within the southern portion of Trench 5 (Fig.3). They cut colluvial deposit L1008. F1015 was a modern pipe trench (F1015), and F1016 was a modern drainage gully. No other features were present within the trench.

5.1.6 Trench 6 Fig.3, Plates 9 & 10

<i>Sample section: North end, East facing section.</i> 0.00 = 48.03m AOD	
0.00 – 0.11m	L1006. Topsoil. See above.
0.11 – 0.27m	L1007. Subsoil. See above.
0.27 – 0.59m	L1008. Colluvial layer. See above.
0.59m+	L1010. Natural. See above.

<i>Sample section: South end, West facing section.</i> 0.00 = 48.51m AOD	
0.00 – 0.10m	L1006. Topsoil See above.
0.10 – 0.23m	L1007. Subsoil. See above.
0.23 – 0.48m	L1008. Colluvial layer. See above.
0.48m+	L1010. Natural. See above.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 6.

The stratigraphy differed from Trench 5 with the absence of colluvium L1009, present in the northern end of Trench 5.

5.1.7 Trench 7 Fig.3, Plates 11 & 12

<i>Sample section: North end, West facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 49.17m AOD	
0.00 – 0.13m	L1011. Topsoil. Dark brown/black, non-cohesive silty sand with occasional angular flint gravel <40mm.
0.13 – 1.00m	L1012. 20 th century dumping/build-up layer. Dark brown/black, non-cohesive silty sand with frequent angular 20 th century CBM <1000mm and frequent angular flint gravel <50mm.
1.00 – 1.18m	L1013. Buried post-medieval topsoil. Dark brown/black, non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint gravel <30mm.
1.18 – 1.31m	L1014. Subsoil. Mid brown/grey/black, cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint gravel <20mm.
1.31m+	L1010. Natural. See above.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 7.

A substantial modern rubble layer (L1012) was recorded to a depth of 0.97m. It is thought that this layer was introduced to the area to raise the ground level at this low-lying area of the site.

5.2 Phase 2

5.2.1 Trench 1a

<i>Sample section: South end, West facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 49.11m AOD	
0.00 – 0.10m	L2000. Topsoil. Dark brown/black, non-cohesive silty sand with moderate sub-angular flint gravel <10mm.
0.10 – 0.30m	L2001. 20 th century dumping/build-up layer. Light grey/white, non-cohesive silty sand with frequent angular 20 th century CBM <1000mm and frequent angular flint gravel <50mm.
0.30 – 0.55m	L2002. Concrete hardstanding layer. Light grey/white, cohesive concrete.
0.55 – 0.68m	L2003. Tarmacadam hardstanding layer. Dark black, cohesive tarmacadam.
0.68 – 0.86m	L2004. 20 th century dumping/build-up layer. Light white/grey, non-cohesive silty sand with frequent angular 20 th century CBM <500mm and frequent angular flint gravel <50mm.
0.86 – 1.10m	L2005. Buried 20 th century topsoil layer. Dark brown/black, non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint and degraded chalk gravels <100mm.
1.10 – 1.28m	L2006. 20 th century dumping/build-up layer. Mid brown/grey, non-cohesive silty sand with frequent angular 20 th century CBM <500mm and

	frequent angular flint gravel <10mm.
1.28m+	L2007. Natural subsoil. Light grey/white, cohesive chalk with occasional pockets of mid brown/orange cohesive silty clay and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles <150mm.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present within Trench 1a.

A substantial build-up of modern/post-medieval ‘levelling’ layers were recorded up to a depth of 1.28m+. Again it is thought that the build-up layers were introduced to raise the ground level at this low-lying area of the site.

Large pit F2012 and its associated fill (L2013) was unearthed at the southern end of Trench 1a (and the western end of Trench 1b). This was not investigated due to the overwhelming presence of late 20th century CBM and concrete within fill L2013 and health and safety reasons due to depth.

5.2.2 Trench 1b

<i>Sample section: East end, North facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 49.20m AOD	
0.00 – 0.07m	L2000. Topsoil. See above.
0.07 – 0.26m	L2001. 20 th century dumping/build-up layer. See above.
0.26 – 0.59m	L2002. Concrete hardstanding layer. See above.
0.59 – 0.73m	L2003. Tarmacadam hardstanding layer. See above.
0.73 – 0.85m	L2004. 20 th century dumping/build-up layer. See above.
0.85 – 1.18m	L2005. Buried 20 th century topsoil layer. See above.
1.18 – 1.25m	L2006. 20 th century dumping/build-up layer. See above.
1.25m+	L2007. Natural subsoil. See above.

Description: Again, no archaeological features were present within Trench 1b.

The excavation of the trench revealed a somewhat similar story to Trench 1a, a successive build-up of modern ‘levelling’ layers, although this is unsurprising due to the proximity of trenches 1a and 1b.

Large modern pit F2012 was present within the western end of Trench 1b (see Trench 1a description above).

5.2.3 Trench 2a

<i>Sample section: East end, South facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 48.57m AOD	
0.00 – 0.25m	L2000. Topsoil. Dark brown/black, non-cohesive silty sand with moderate sub-angular flint gravel <10mm.
0.25 – 0.58m	L2008. Subsoil. Mid brown/orange/grey, cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular and angular flint pebbles <100mm.
0.58 – 0.75m	L2009. Crushed chalk hardstanding layer. Mid grey/brown, cohesive silty

	sand with frequent crushed chalk blocks <100mm and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles <150mm.
0.75 – 0.94m	L2010. Buried 20 th century topsoil layer. Mid brown/black, non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles <50mm.
0.94m+	L2011. Natural subsoil. Mid orange/brown, cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular and angular flint and chalk gravels <100mm.

Description: A single archaeological feature was present within trench 2a. F2014 was circular in plan with 80° sloping edges running to a rounded flat base. It contained a single fill L2015, a mid brown/orange, cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles <100mm. No finds were encountered within this feature, and therefore it remains undated.

Running centrally within Trench 2a was a modern service trench appearing from the eastern end of the trench, and terminating approx. halfway along the trenches edge.

Again it seems that successive layers of post-medieval/modern build-up layers have been dumped within the area of this trench. Of note, the natural subsoil (L2011) is different from that within Trenches 1a and 1b, a silty sand, and the ancient colluvium investigated within Phase 1 of the evaluation (L1008).

5.2.4 Trench 2b

<i>Sample section: West end, North facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 48.41m AOD	
0.00 – 0.26m	L2000. Topsoil. See above.
0.26 – 0.64m	L2008. Subsoil. See above.
0.64 – 0.86m	L2009. Crushed chalk hardstanding layer. See above.
0.86 – 1.02m	L2010. Buried 20 th century topsoil layer. See above.
1.02m+	L2011. Natural subsoil. See above.

Description: No archaeological features were present within Trench 2b.

Identical in formation to Trench 2a, and similar to Trenches 1a and 1b, Trench 2b shows a comparable trend within the north-eastern area of the site insofar that heavy post-medieval/modern dumping had occurred to a substantial depth.

5.2.5 Trench 3a

<i>Sample section: West end, South facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 49.36m AOD	
0.00 – 0.20m	L2000. Topsoil. See above.
0.20 – 0.30m	L2008. Subsoil. See above.
0.30m+	L2011. Natural subsoil. See above.

Description: No archaeological features were encountered within Trench 3a.

Due to the location within the gardens of The Croft building, little modern truncation has occurred. A modern service trench was present approximately 4m east of the western end of the trench running at 90° to the trench edges.

5.2.6 Trench 3b

<i>Sample section: South end, East facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 48.43m AOD	
0.00 – 0.21m	L2000. Topsoil. See above.
0.21 – 0.38m	L2008. Subsoil. See above.
0.38m+	L2011. Natural subsoil. See above.

Description: No archaeological features were present within Trench 3b.

Trench 3b was identical in formation to that of Trench 3a. This is unsurprising due to their proximity to each other.

5.2.7 Trench 4

<i>Sample section: South end, West facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 51.10m AOD	
0.00 – 0.24m	L2000. Topsoil. See above.
0.24 – 0.34m	L2008. Subsoil. See above.
0.34m+	L2011. Natural subsoil. See above.

<i>Sample section: North end, East facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 49.81m AOD	
0.00 – 0.21m	L2000. Topsoil. See above.
0.21 – 0.41m	L2008. Subsoil. See above.
0.41m+	L2011. Natural subsoil. See above.

Description: No archaeological features were found within Trench 4.

The only feature encountered was a modern service trench bi-secting Trench 4 running on an east-west axis located 12.50m from the trenches southern limit.

5.2.8 Trench 5

<i>Sample section: South end, West facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 51.07m AOD	
0.00 – 0.22m	L2000. Topsoil. See above.
0.22 – 0.32m	L2008. Subsoil. See above.
0.32m+	L2011. Natural subsoil. See above.

<i>Sample section: North end, East facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 49.62m AOD	

0.00 – 0.22m	L2000. Topsoil. See above.
0.22 – 0.42m	L2008. Subsoil. See above.
0.42m+	L2011. Natural subsoil. See above.

Description: No archaeological features were encountered within Trench 5.

Again, the only feature encountered within this trench was the continuation of the modern service trench found within Trench 4. This service trench is believed to be a feeder pipe for a nearby subterranean septic tank.

5.2.9 Trench 6

<i>Sample section: East end, North facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 51.41m AOD	
0.00 – 0.25m	L2000. Topsoil. See above.
0.25 – 0.35m	L2008. Subsoil. See above.
0.35m+	L2011. Natural subsoil. See above.

<i>Sample section: West end, South facing section.</i>	
0.00 = 51.54m AOD	
0.00 – 0.26m	L2000. Topsoil. See above.
0.26 – 0.36m	L2008. Subsoil. See above.
0.36m+	L2011. Natural subsoil. See above.

Description: No archaeological or modern features were encountered within Trench 6. Heavy modern root disturbance was noted within this trench.

6 CONFIDENCE RATING

6.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features and finds during the evaluation.

7 DEPOSIT MODEL

7.1 The trenches revealed a generally common stratigraphy across the site. The variation in deposits observed were the result of variable levels of modern intrusion and ground disturbance (in particular previous levelling and terracing into the rising ground to the south).

7.2 Concrete hardstanding deposit L1000 and hardcore levelling layer L1001 were present overlaying the middle and western portions of the site (Phase 1 Trenches 1, 3 and 4). The investigation of Trenches 3 and 4 showed that the southern portion of the site, in and around the laundry buildings, had been previously stripped to the level of the chalk bedrock (L1005). Where the original stratigraphy was intact e.g. Phase 1 Trench 1, a deep colluvial deposit (L1004) was present.

7.3 Phase 1 Trenches 5 and 6 showed a common stratigraphy. Topsoil (L1006) overlay subsoil L1007. Beneath these deposits were two colluvial deposits, L1008 and L1009. The latter was not present within Trench 6. It is not clear if this was due to modern truncation or that L1009 simply did not extend to Trench 6. L1008 and L1009 both overlay natural, L1010. This is matched with the Phase 2 evaluation within trenches 3a, 3b, 4, 5 and 6. A thin spread of topsoil (L2000) overlay a modern subsoil deposit (L2008) in turn overlaying an ancient colluvial deposit (L2011). L2011 was a sterile deposit, and due to the geological sections excavated within Phase 1, it was deemed unnecessary to remove this deposit.

7.4 In the far northern area of the site, Phase 1 Trench 7, significant modern truncation was evident. Topsoil (L1011) overlay a modern dumping/levelling layer (L1012) which in turn buried topsoil (L1013) and subsoil (L1014). Underlying L1014 was the natural L1010. This evidence was backed-up by Trenches 1a, 1b, 2a and 2b within the Phase 2 excavation. Further 'levelling' deposits were encountered, with L1012 from the Phase 1 excavation being the same as deposit L2001 within the second phase. This is matched further by buried topsoil L1013 being the same as buried topsoil L2005. A buried subsoil (L1014) was not encountered within the Phase 2 excavation, and therefore it can be assumed that this was only present within Trench 7 of the Phase 1 excavation. A few modern layers were present within the second phase of excavation not present within Trench 7 of the first excavation were hardstanding layers L2002, L2003, and hardcore dumping/levelling layers L2004 and L2006.

7.5 The natural subsoil varied from chalk (Phase 1; L1005, Phase 2; L2007) within the western area of the site, to a gravelly sandy silt in the eastern limits of the excavation (Phase 1; L1010, Phase 2; L2011).

7.6 A geotechnical investigation carried out on the site for the client (Resource & Environmental Consultants Limited 2005) revealed a variable stratigraphy across the site, with variable deposits of made ground of recent date at relatively shallow depth above mixed deposits of chalk, sand and clay.

7.7 The meadow area to the immediate north of the site area of the current evaluation had clearly been subject to previous ground disturbance, given that there were deposits of relatively recent made ground between 2.8 and 3.50m+ below existing, above sand deposits. This dumping clearly took place to consolidate the low-lying marshy area of the site. The northernmost trench excavated during the current evaluation also revealed the presence of over a metre of recent made ground (Trench 7), as did Trenches 1a, 1b, 2a, and 2b within the Phase 2 excavation.

7.8 Consultation of service records for the site also indicate the presence of extensive large service runs between the existing buildings, which will have caused further ground disturbance to this part of the site.

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 The extent and depth of modern disturbance across the southern concrete car park suggests that archaeological features, if present, will likely have been truncated.

The site has clearly been terraced-in at a relatively recent date into the rising slope to the south (in particular the significant truncation in the vicinity of Phase 1 Trenches 3 & 4). Preservation of colluvial deposits within Phase 1 Trenches 1, 5 and 6 indicate that there may be less truncation in these parts of the site, in particular the far west (Phase 1 Trench 1) and east (Phase 1 Trenches 5 & 6) of the site. It is also possible that preservation of archaeological remains may also be evident within the northern portion of the site, though the presence of deep deposits of made ground in this area (confirmed as increasing in depth to some 3.5m+ in the meadow area to the north in a geotechnical report supplied by the client suggest that there has been extensive dumping/previous disturbance in this area).

8.2 No evidence of further Anglo-Saxon burials (which are known within 140m of the site and also some 200m to the west) or contemporary settlement was identified within the area of the current evaluation, nor any evidence of ancillary medieval activity associated with the Almoner's Barn complex.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

AS would like to thank Land Charter Homes plc for their co-operation and funding of the evaluation, in particular Mr Henrik Darlington.

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APPENDIX 1 DOCUMENTARY ARCHIVE FORM

Site Details			
County:	Suffolk	Museum:	County Sites & Monuments Record
Site Code:	BSE274	AS Project Number:	2243
Site Name:	Hardwick Industrial Estate, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk		
NGR:	TL 8570 6320	Accession Number:	
Site Type:	Evaluation	Date of Work:	March & July 2006
Planning Ref:		SMR No:	
Related Work:	None		
Brief Description of Documentary Archive:	2 lever arch files, 3 sheets A1 drawings		
Brief Finds Description (Quantity & Date):	2 x Struck Flints, Prehistoric		
Ownership Form Returned:		Archive Deposited:	

Introduction			
Brief/s		Specification/s	
Date	Present	Date	Present

A: Reports		
Report Type	Report No	Present

B: Primary Site Records		
Total No. of Files:	2 lever arch files	
Total No. of Site Drawing Sheets:	3	
Location of A4 Files (Tick)	Finds Room:	Corridor:
Material	Present	Details
Site Notes		
Context Register	Yes	2 sheets
Context Sheets	Yes	32 sheets
Levels Sheets	Yes	2 sheets
Site Drawings		
Plan/Section Register	Yes	2 sheets
Plan Sheets	No	
Section Sheets	No	
Combined Plan/Section Sheets	Yes	3 sheets
Other Site Drawings	No	
Digital Plans		
Plans		
Data		
C: Finds Data		
Small Finds Register	None	
Finds Concordance		

Finds Box List			
X-Rays			
Conservation Photo Plates			
Conservation Lab Sheets			
Other Finds Information (Give Details)			
Specialist Finds Reports			
Material	Report Type	Report Present	Specialist Archive Material (Give Details)

D: Site Photographs				
Photographic Register Present		Yes	Digital Photo Register Present	
Black & White 35mm				
Film No	Negative Nos	Shot Nos	Contact Sheet Present	Negatives Present
1773	1 - 7	1 - 3		
1881	16 - 36	1 - 11		
1902	1 - 25	12 - 23		
Colour Slides				
Film No	Negative Nos	Shot Nos	Present	
1868	1 - 25	1 - 12		
1929	16 - 36	1 - 11		
1945	1 - 25	12 - 23		
Digital Photos				
Shot Nos	Files Present		Hard Copies Present	
1 - 12	Yes			
1 - 23	Yes			

E: Environmental Data				
Sample Register Present:		None	Sample Sheets Present:	
Processing Register Present:			Sieving Sheets Present:	
Sample Concordance Present:				
Specialist Environmental Reports				
Material	Report Type	Report Present	Specialist Archive Material (Give Details)	

F: Documentary Records, Press & Publicity; G: Relevant Correspondence; H: Miscellaneous	
F; 3 Trench Record Sheets	

APPENDIX 2 CONCORDANCE OF PHASE 1 FEATURES

Feature	Context	Trench	Description	Date
	L1000	All	Concrete Hardstanding	Modern
	L1001	1,2,3	Hardcore Rubble Layer	Modern
	L1002	All	Buried Topsoil	Post-med
	L1003	All	Buried Subsoil	Post-med
	L1004	1,2	Colluvial Layer	Undated
	L1005	All	Chalk Natural Subsoil	-
	L1006	4	Modern Topsoil	Modern
	L1007	4	Modern Subsoil	Modern
	L1008	4	Colluvial Layer	Undated
	L1009	4	Colluvial Layer	Undated
	L1010	4	Sandy Gravel Natural Subsoil	-
	L1011	4	Topsoil	Modern
	L1012	4	Rubble Make-up Layer	Modern
	L1013	4	Buried Topsoil Layer	Post-med
	L1014	2	Buried Subsoil Layer	Post-med
F1015		2	Cut Of Drainage Gully	Modern
F1016		2	Cut Of Pipe Trench	Modern

CONCORDANCE OF PHASE 2 FEATURES

Feature	Context	Trench	Description	Date
	L2000	All	Modern Topsoil	Modern
	L2001	1a,1b	Hardcore Rubble Layer	Modern
	L2002	1a,1b	Concrete Hardstanding	Modern
	L2003	1a,1b	Tarmacadam Hardstanding	Modern
	L2004	1a,1b	Hardcore Rubble Layer	Modern
	L2005	1a,1b	Buried Topsoil Layer	Post-med
	L2006	1a,1b	Hardcore Rubble Layer	Post-med
	L2007	1a,1b	Silty Chalk Natural Subsoil	-
	L2008	2a,2b,3a,3b,4,5,6	Modern Subsoil	Modern
	L2009	2a,2b	Crushed Chalk Hardstanding	Modern
	L2010	2a,2b	Buried Topsoil Layer	Post-med
	L2011	2a,2b,3a,3b,4,5,6	Silty Sand Natural Subsoil	Modern
F2012		1a,1b	Cut Of Waste Pit	Post-med
	L2013	1a,1b	Fill Of Waste Pit F2012	Post-med
F2014		2a	Cut Of Pit	Undated
	L2015	2a	Fill Of Pit F2014	Undated

APPENDIX 3 STRUCK FLINT (PHASE 1)

L1004

1 Struck flake, 1 snapped flake. Primary. Grey flint. Abraded. Not burnt and not retouched. Differential patination is evident on the struck flake, and it also has a small hinge fracture

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1. Trench 1, view west



2. Section of Trench 1, view north



3. Trench 3, view west



4. Section of Trench 3, view north



5. Trench 4, view north



6. Section of Trench 4, view east



7. Trench 5, view north



8. Section of Trench 5, view east



9. Trench 6, view north



10. Section of Trench 6, view north



11. Trench 7, view west

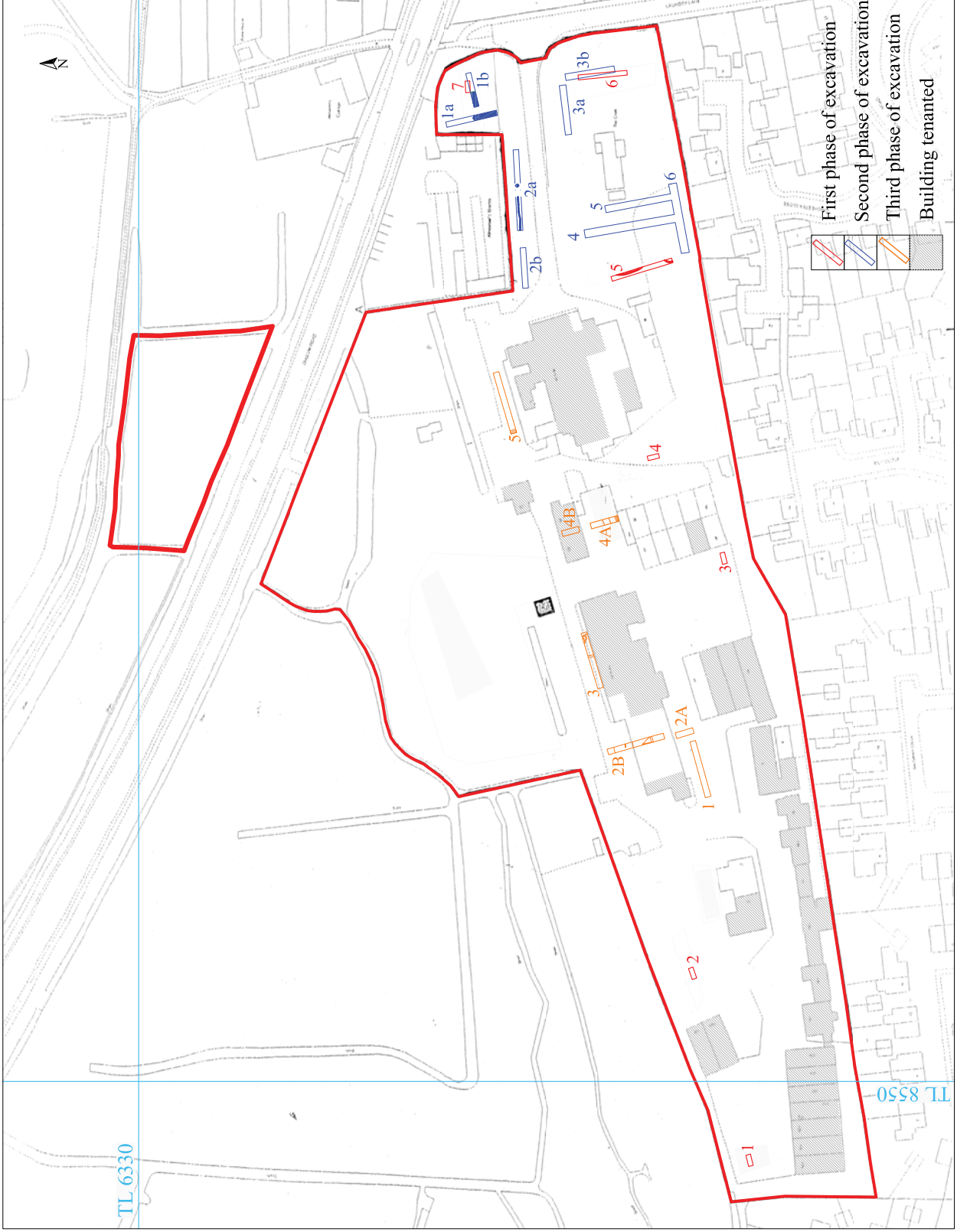


12. Section of Trench 7, view north



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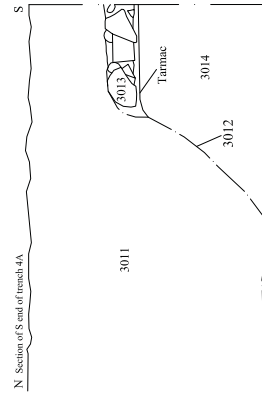
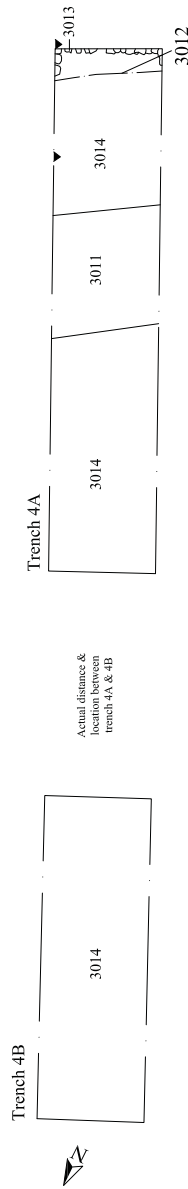
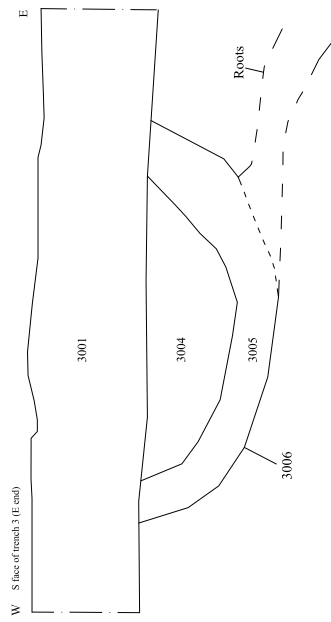
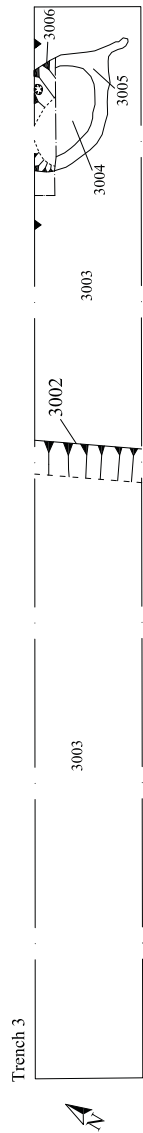
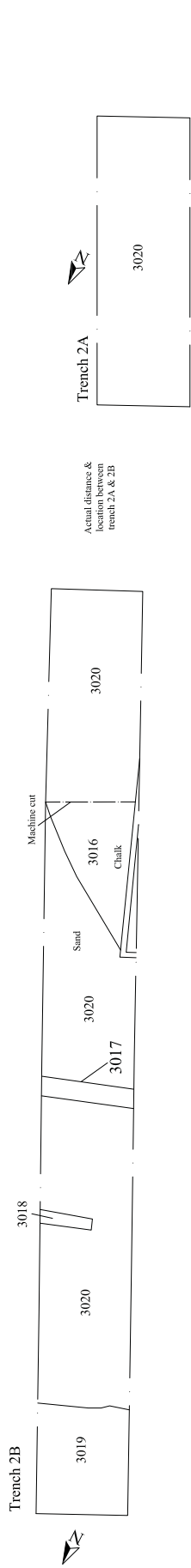
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000



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Fig. 2 Trench location plan

Scale 1:2000 at A4



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Fig. 3 Plans and sections
 Scale Plans at 1:100, sections at 1:25

