HARDWICK INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION PHASES 1, 2 & 3

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

HARDWICK INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION (PHASES 1, 2 and 3)

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NGR: TL 8570 6314	Report No. 2011
District: Bury St Edmunds	Site Code: BSE 274
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. 2243
Signed:	Date: September 2007

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	*Hardwick Industrial Estate, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.*		
Project description *During March and July 2006, and September 2007 Archaeological Solutions Ltd carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation over three phases at Hardwick Industrial Estate, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (NGR TL 8570 6320).* *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 was 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.* *The three phases of trial trench evaluation revealed little archaeological evidence. Modern truncation has not affected the far eastern and western sectors of the site. Conversely the southern and northern areas appear to have suffered from modern truncation.*			
Project dates (fieldwork)	*29/03/06 – 31/03/06, 03/07/06 – 05/07/06 and 07/09/07 – 10/09/07*		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	*Y*	Future work (Y/N/?)	*TBC*
P. number	*P2243*	Site code	*BSE274*
Type of project	*An archaeological evaluation*		
Site status			
Current land use	*Small scale industrial units demolished by third phase*		
Planned development	*Housing redevelopment*		
Main features (+dates)	*None.*		
Significant finds (+dates)	*None*		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	*Suffolk*	*Bury St Edmunds*	*Bury St Edmunds*
HER/ SMR for area	*Suffolk HER*		
Post code (if known)			
Area of site			
NGR	*TL* 8570 6314		
Height AOD (max/ min)	*c. 37.50m to 51.54m AOD*		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	*SCC AS Conservation Team*		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	*Dan McConnell BSc, Gary Brogan BSc*		
Funded by	*Land Charter Homes plc*		
Full title	*Hardwick Industrial Estate, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk: An Archaeological Evaluation*		
Authors	*Dan McConnell BSc, Gary Brogan BSc*		
Report no.	*2011*		
Date (of report)	*September 2007*		

HARDWICK INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION (PHASES 1 & 2)

SUMMARY

In March and July 2006, and September 2007 Archaeological Solutions Ltd carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation over three phases at Hardwick Industrial Estate, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (NGR TL 8570 6314*).*

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 was 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 development site is the putative line of the town's defences. The latter 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 uncovered (BSE 065). An evaluation by AS to the north of the site revealed deep modern overburden (McConnell 2005).

The two phases of trial trench evaluation revealed little archaeological evidence. Modern truncation has not affected the far eastern and western sectors of the site. Conversely the southern and northern areas appear to have suffered from modern truncation.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In March and July 2006, and in September 2007 Archaeological Solutions carried out three phases of archaeological evaluation of Hardwick Industrial Estate, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (NGR TL 8570 6314) (Figs.1-2). The evaluation was undertaken in advance of the proposed redevelopment of the site for housing, and was commissioned by Land Charter Homes plc.

1.2 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* (2001), 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).

1.3 The principal objectives for the evaluation 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. 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.

3 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 an area 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. The existing ground levels drop away fairly steeply towards its northern

extent; the highest point appears to be towards its south west corner. During the first two phases of evaluation, the site was still in use as a small industrial estate, with trees and scrub grow along its northern edges with the central area covered by concrete hard standings and post 1940s industrial units. The units in the centre of the site have subsequently been demolished and the rubble either heaped at the southern edge or crushed to form the new surface across the site. The south of the site had been terraced 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 was a successful centre of agricultural production and trade.

3.2.2 The site lies 200m 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 (pasture in the post-medieval period), and then as a large scale industrial laundry site, with an administrative area being built at the site's 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 substantial previous ground disturbance and no archaeological remains (McConnell 2005).

4 METHODOLOGY Figs. 2 & 3

4.1 Phase 1

Six trenches were excavated (labelled 1-7). Trench 2 was curtailed in agreement with Robert Carr (SCC AS Conservation Team), following a test pit which revealed modern service trenches truncating the area to be investigated. Trench 5 was lengthened to account for the loss of Trench 2.

Trench number	Dimensions	Alignment
1	4m x 1.60m	E – W
2	Not excavated	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

Six trenches were excavated on the eastern side of the industrial estate. The sample size here being increased to 5%, based on the advice of Robert Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team). The trench locations were altered because of modern service runs, trees and occupied buildings.

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 Phase 3

Five trenches were excavated in the centre of the previous industrial estate. The sample size here being 5%, based on the advice of Robert Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team). The trench locations were altered because of the presence of live service runs.

Trench number	Dimensions	Alignment
1	20m x 1.80m	E – W
2a	6m x 1.80m	N – S
2b	20m x 1.80m	N – S
3	20m x 1.80m	E – W
4a	10m x 1.80m	N – S
4b	6m x 1.80m	N – S
5	21m x 1.80m	E – W

Table 3 Dimensions and alignments of Phase 3 trial trenches

4.4 The trenches were excavated using a mechanical 180º 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 a metal detector was used to scan the trenches.

5 RESULTS Figs 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6; Plates 1-21

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

5.1 Phase 1

5.1.1 Trench 1 Fig.3 Plates 1 & 2

Sample section: West end, South facing section. 0.00 = 36.30m AOD	
0.00 – 0.09m	L1000. Modern concrete hard standing. Light grey/white concrete.
0.09 – 0.42m	L1001. Modern hardcore rubble levelling layer. Mid yellow/brown non-cohesive silty sand with frequent angular 20th 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 modern service trench within the area of investigation.

5.1.3 Trench 3 Fig.3, Plates 3 & 4

Sample section: West end, South facing section. 0.00 = 37.10m AOD	
0.00 – 0.10m	L1000. Modern concrete hard standing. 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 or finds were located 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

Sample section: North end, West facing section. 0.00 = 37.20m AOD	
0.00 – 0.11m	L1000. Modern concrete hard standing. 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 or finds were located 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

Sample section: North end, West facing section. 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 river washed 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.

Sample section: South end, East facing section. 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

Sample section: North end, East facing section. 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.

Sample section: South end, West facing section. 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 located in Trench 6.

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

5.1.7 Trench 7 Fig.3, Plates 11 & 12

Sample section: North end, West facing section. 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. 20th century dumping/build-up layer. Dark brown/black, non-cohesive silty sand with frequent angular 20th 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 located 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 Fig.4, Plates 13 & 18

Sample section: South end, West facing section. 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. 20th century dumping/build-up layer. Light grey/white, non-cohesive silty sand with frequent angular 20th century CBM <1000mm and frequent angular flint gravel <50mm.
0.30 – 0.55m	L2002. Concrete hard standing layer. Light grey/white, cohesive concrete.
0.55 – 0.68m	L2003. Tarmacadam hard standing layer. Dark black, cohesive tarmacadam.
0.68 – 0.86m	L2004. 20th century dumping/build-up layer. Light white/grey, non-cohesive silty sand with frequent angular 20th century CBM <500mm and frequent angular flint gravel <50mm.
0.86 – 1.10m	L2005. Buried 20th 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. 20th century dumping/build-up layer. Mid brown/grey, non-cohesive silty sand with frequent angular 20th century CBM <500mm and frequent angular flint gravel <10mm.
1.28m+	L2007. Natural. 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 located within Trench 1A.

A substantial build-up of modern/post-medieval 'levelling' layers were recorded up to a depth of 1.28m+. The build-up layers were likely introduced to raise the ground level in this low-lying area of the site.

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

5.2.2 Trench 1B Fig. 4, Plate 14

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

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

The trench was comparable to Trench 1a, with a successive build-up of modern 'levelling' layers. This is not unsurprising given the proximity of Trenches 1a and 1b.

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

5.2.3 Trench 2A Fig.4, Plates 15 & 17

Sample section: East end, South facing section. 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 hard standing 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 20th century topsoil layer. Mid brown/black, non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles <50mm.
0.94m+	L2011. Natural. Mid orange/brown, cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular and angular flint and chalk gravels <100mm.

Description: A pit was present within Trench 2A.

Pit F2014 was circular in plan with steep sides leading to a rounded flat base. Its fill, L2015, was a mid brown/orange, cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles <100mm. No finds were present

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

Successive layers of post-medieval/modern build-up layers have been dumped within the area of the site. The natural (L2011) differed from that recorded within Trenches 1A and 1B, being a silty sand.

5.2.4 Trench 2B Fig.4, Plate 16

Sample section: West end, North facing section. 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 hard standing layer. See above.
0.86 – 1.02m	L2010. Buried 20th century topsoil layer. See above.
1.02m+	L2011. Natural subsoil. See above.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were located within Trench 2B.

Trench 2B was directly comparable to Trench 2a, and similar to Trenches 1A and 1B. In the north-eastern area of the site substantial post-medieval/modern dumping had occurred.

5.2.5 Trench 3A

Sample section: West end, South facing section. 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 or finds were located in Trench 3A.

Due to the location of the trench within the gardens of The Croft, little modern truncation had occurred.

A modern service trench was present towards the western end of the trench.

5.2.6 Trench 3B

Sample section: South end, East facing section. 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 or finds were located in Trench 3B.

The stratigraphy of Trench 3b was directly comparable to Trench 3A.

5.2.7 Trench 4

Sample section: South end, West facing section. 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.

Sample section: North end, East facing section. 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 or finds were located in Trench 4

A modern service trench bisected Trench 4.

5.2.8 Trench 5

Sample section: South end, West facing section. 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.

Sample section: North end, East facing section. 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 or finds were located in Trench 5.

The modern service trench revealed in Trench 4 was also observed in Trench 5.

5.2.9 Trench 6

Sample section: East end, North facing section. 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.

Sample section: West end, South facing section. 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 features or finds were located in Trench 6. Heavy modern root disturbance was noted within this trench.

5.3 Phase 3

5.3.1 Trench 1 Fig.2

Sample section: South end, West facing section. 0.00 = 35.65 AOD	
0.00 – 0.06m	L3021. Tarmacadam road surface. Dark black, cohesive tarmacadam.
0.06 – 0.41m	L3022. 20th century make-up layer for L3021. Orange/yellow sandy flint gravel.
0.41m+	L3023. Natural. 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 1.

5.3.2 Trench 2A Figs. 2 & 5

Sample section: South end, North facing section. 0.00 = 35.60m AOD	
0.00 – 0.06m	L3024. Tarmacadam road surface. Dark black, cohesive tarmacadam.
0.06 – 0.40m	L3025. 20th century make-up layer for L3024. Orangey yellow sandy flint gravel.
0.94m+	L3020. Natural chalk. See L3023 above

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present within Trench 2A.

5.3.3 Trench 2B Figs. 2 & 5; Plate 19

Sample section: South end, North facing section. 0.00 = 35.55m AOD	
0.00 – 0.10m	L3015. Crushed building rubble. Fragments of 20th century brick, concrete, wood, metal and plastic.
0.10m+	L3020. Natural. In the southern end of the trench this was as above. In the remainder of the trench it was mid orange/brown, cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular and angular flint and chalk gravels <100mm.

Description: Three late 20th century frogged-brick wall foundations (F3016, F3017 and F3018) were located within the trench. Each had been built in construction trenches that had cut through the natural subsoil.

A north to south aligned brick wall foundation (F3016) was located against the western edge of excavation toward the south end of the trench. An east to west return ran from its northern end into the western trench edge. The wall was composed of a single skin of red brick (0.10m wide) in stretcher bond with cement mortar, and it survived to at least six courses.

Running east to west through the approximate centre of the trench was a double-skin (0.23m wide) brick wall foundation (F3017). It was two courses high, bonded with cement mortar and sat on a thin bed of concrete.

A further foundation (F3018) was located to the north. This was also two bricks wide (0.35m), but with headers on the south face and stretchers on the north. This wall was also aligned east to west but terminated in the trench with no return.

A deposit of orange/yellow sandy flint gravel (L3019) was located in the north end of the trench and this may have formed the fill of a service trench.

5.3.4 Trench 3 Figs. 2 & 5

Sample section: East end, West facing section. 0.00 = 35.85 AOD	
0.00 – 0.30m	L3001. Crushed building rubble. See L3015 above.
0.30m+	L3003. Natural. See L3023 above

Sample section: West end, East facing section. 0.00 = 35.36 AOD	
0.00 – 0.50m	L3001. Crushed building rubble. See L3015 above.
0.50m	F3002. Cut for removal of cellar
0.50m+	L3003. Natural. See L3023 above

Description: Trench 3 contained a cut associated with demolition of a cellar (F3002) and a tree hollow (F3006).

A sub-circular tree hollow (F3006) was located in the eastern end of the trench. It had a U-shaped profile with a root hole leading away from the base. The sides and base of the hollow were filled with mid-brown clayey sand (L3005) with the remainder filled by compact chalky sand (L3004).

A cut (F3002) for the demolition of a cellar was located in the western half of the trench. This was on average 0.50m deep and contained the same crushed building rubble (L3001) that was located across the entire trench.

5.3.5 Trench 4A Figs. 2 & 5

Sample section: North end, South facing section. 0.00 = 36.14 AOD	
0.00 – 1m	L3011. Crushed building rubble. See L3015 above.
1m+	L3014. Natural. See L3023 above.

Description: Trench 4A contained the remnant of a foundation which had been heavily damaged by cut F3012 which was associated with the demolition and removal of cellaring in this area.

Located at the southern end of the trench was a remnant of foundation, consisting of pitched limestone fragments and blocks, laid from south to north, set on 20mm of Tarmacadam (L3013). Within the trench this 0.20m thick foundation had been almost entirely removed by a cut (F3012) associated with the demolition and removal of a cellar. The demolition cut was filled with crushed building rubble (L3011), which had not been entirely excavated within the centre of the trench.

5.3.6 Trench 4B Figs. 2 & 5; Plate 21

Sample section: North end, South facing section. 0.00 = 35.15m AOD	
0.00 – 1m	L3011. Crushed building rubble. See L3015 above.
1m+	L3014. Natural. See L3023 above.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present within Trench 4A.

5.3.7 Trench 5 Figs. 2 & 6; Plate 20

Sample section: East end, West facing section. 0.00 = 36.05 AOD	
0.00 – 0.50m	L3007. Crushed building rubble. See L3015 above.
0.50m+	L3010. Natural. Mid orange/brown, cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular and angular flint and chalk gravels <100mm.

Description: Like Trench 4A, Trench 5 contained the remnant of a foundation which had been heavily damaged by cut F3008, which was associated with demolition activity

At the western end of the trench was a remnant of foundation, consisting of pitched limestone fragments and blocks, laid from south to north, set on make-up of clay and chalk (L3009). Within the remainder of the trench this 0.35m thick foundation had been almost entirely removed by a cut (F3008) associated with the demolition of the industrial unit that was previously located immediately to the south. The cut was filled with crushed building rubble (L3007).

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 Phases 1 and 2

7.1.1 Generally a common stratigraphy was revealed 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).

7.1.2 Concrete hard standing deposit L1000 and hardcore levelling layer L1001 were present overlaying the middle and western sectors 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.

7.1.3 Phase 1 Trenches 5 and 6 exhibited 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 was reflected in the Phase 2 evaluation in trenches 3A, 3B, 4, 5 and 6. A thin spread of topsoil (L2000) overlay modern subsoil (L2008) which in turn overlay an ancient colluvial deposit (L2011). L2011 was a sterile deposit.

7.1.4 In the far northern sector of the site, within 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 reflected in Phase 2 Trenches 1A, 1B, 2A and 2B. Further 'levelling' deposits were encountered (Ph 1 L1012 = Ph. 2 L2001). Buried topsoil L1013 equates to buried topsoil L2005. Buried subsoil (L1014) was not encountered during Phase 2. A number of modern layers recorded during Ph.2 were not present in Trench 7 (hard standing layers L2002, L2003, and hardcore dumping/levelling layers L2004 and L2006).

7.2 Phase 3

7.2.1 The sub-circular feature cutting the natural chalk in Trench 3 (F3006) was probably a tree hollow, derived naturally from the falling of a tree.

7.2.2 The demolition of the industrial units had resulted in further truncation of the site. The only archaeological features that were located consisted of remnants of a pitched limestone foundation, located in Trench 4A (F3013) and Trench 5 (F3009). This foundation was probably associated with the flax factory and possibly represented make-up for floors, yard surfaces or roads.

7.2.3 Wall foundations associated with an industrial unit were located within Trench 2B, and grubbed out cellars were located in Trenches 3, 4A and 4B.

7.2.3 Following the demolition of the industrial units and the grubbing out of the cellars, the resulting building rubble had been crushed and spread across the entire site to form a roughly level hardcore surface. This was located in all trenches.

7.3 *General*

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

7.3.2 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.

7.3.3 The meadow to the immediate north of the site 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 was to consolidate the low-lying marshy area of the site. Trench 7 revealed over a metre of recent made ground, as did Trenches 1A, 1B, 2A, and 2B (Phase 2).

7.3.4 The 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 site has clearly been terraced-in, at a relatively recent date, to the rising slope to the south (in particular the significant truncation in the vicinity of Ph. 1 Trenches 3 & 4). Demolition of the industrial units has caused further truncation in the central part of the site. Preservation of colluvial deposits within Ph. 1 Trenches 1, 5 and 6 indicate that there may be less truncation in these parts of the site, in particular the far west (Ph. 1 Trench 1) and east (Ph. 1 Trenches 5 & 6) of the site. Within the northern portion of the site deep deposits of made ground are present (confirmed as increasing in depth to some 3.5m+ in the meadow area to the north in a geotechnical report supplied by the client), and 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.

9 DEPOSITION OF ARCHIVE

9.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with the finds from the site, at the Suffolk County SMR. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

AS is pleased to acknowledge the advice and input of Mr Robert Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team)

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APPENDIX 1
CONCORDANCE OF PHASE 1 FEATURES

Feature	Context	Trench	Description	Date
	L1000	All	Concrete Hard standing	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 Hard standing	Modern
	L2003	1a,1b	Tarmacadam Hard standing	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 Hard standing	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

CONCORDANCE OF PHASE 3 FEATURES

Feature	Context	Trench	Description	Date
	L3001	3	Rubble Hardcore	Modern
F3002		3	Cut of Robbed Cellar	Modern
	L3003	3	Chalk Natural Subsoil	-
	L3004	3	Uppermost Fill in F3006	-

	L3005	3	Lowest Fill in F3006	-
F3006		3	Cut of Tree Hollow	-
	L3007	5	Rubble Hardcore = 3001	Modern
F3008		5	Cut of Robbed Cellar	-
	L3009	5	Pitched Limestone Foundation	Modern
	L3010	5	Chalk Natural Subsoil	-
	L3011	4	Rubble Hardcore = 3001	Modern
F3012		4	Cut of Robbed Cellar	Modern
	L3013	4	Pitched Limestone Foundation	Modern
	L3014	4	Chalk Natural Subsoil	-
	L3015	2B	Rubble Hardcore = 3001	Modern
F3016		2B	Brick Wall	Modern
F3017		2B	Brick Wall	Modern
F3018		2B	Brick Wall	Modern
	L3019	2B	Gravel Make-up	Modern
	L3020	2A, 2B	Chalk Natural Subsoil in 2A and North end of 2B, Silty Sand Natural Subsoil in remainder of 2B	-
	L3021	1	Tarmacadam surface	Modern
	L3022	1	Gravel Make-up	Modern
	L3023	1	Chalk Natural Subsoil	-
	L3024	2A	Tarmacadam surface	Modern
	L3025	2A	Gravel Make-up	Modern

APPENDIX 2 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

Phase 1 Concordance of Finds by Feature

Feature	Trench	Context	Description	Spot Date	Other
	1	1004	Layer		Struck Flint (2) , 14g

Phase 3 Concordance of Finds by Feature

Feature	Trench	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)
3009	5	Pitched Limestone Foundation	1850-1950+	(2), 14g	112
3013	4	Pitched Limestone Foundation	1850-1950+	(5), 47g	

APPENDIX 3 SPECIALIST FINDS REPORTS

STRUCK FLINT
By Tom McDonald

Two pieces of struck flint were recovered from colluvial layer L1004 in Trench 1, Phase 1; 1 Struck flake, 1 snapped flake.

Fabric: 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

POTTERY
By Peter Thompson

The excavation recovered 7 abraded sherds weighing 60g which are all modern

Feature	*Context*	*Ware*	*Date*	*Ware date range/comment*
	3009	1x8g ENGS 1x6g REFW	1850-1950+	ENGS – English Stone Ware overfired REFW – bathroom ceramic
	3013	1x 2g REFW 4x44g ENGS	1850-1950+	REFW Refined White Earthenware 1750-1900+

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX

First Phase of Trial Trenches

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

Second Phase of Trial Trenches

13. Trench 1 A, view north

14. Trench 1 B, view east

15. Trench 2 A, view west

16. Trench 2 B, view west

17. Pit F2014 section,Trench 2 A, view south

18. Trench 1A section 6, view west.

Third Phase of Trial Trenches

19. Trench 2b, wall 3016 looking south

20. Trench 5 showing foundation 3009 looking west

21. Trench 4b showing building rubble over natural looking south

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Fig. 1 Site location plan

Scale 1:25,000

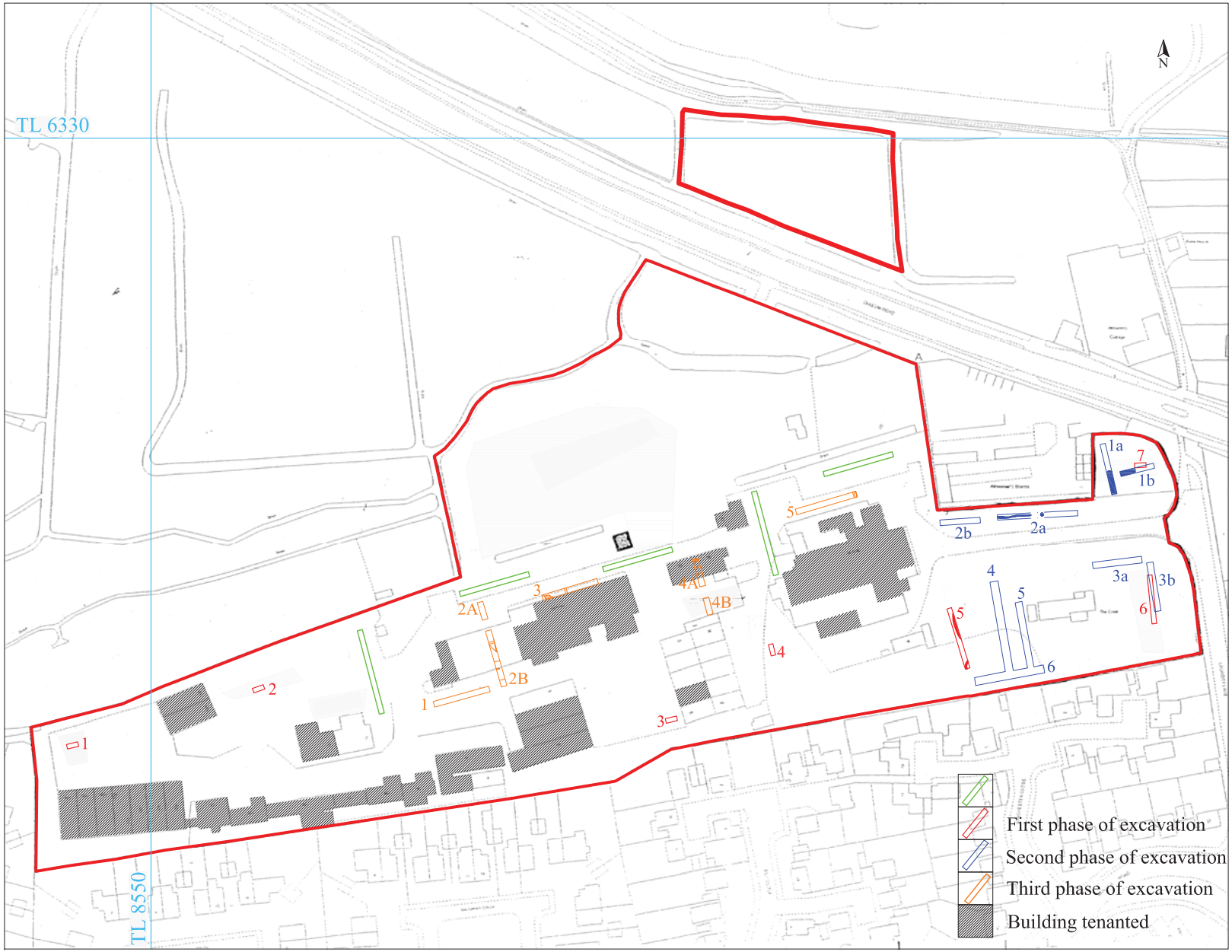

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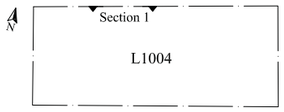
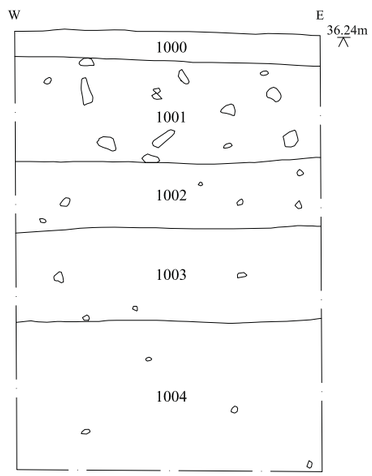
Fig. 2 Trench location plan

Scale 1:2000 at A4

Trenches from first phase of evaluation

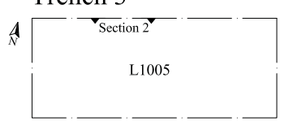
Trench 1

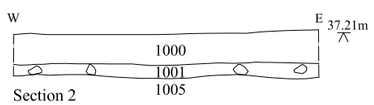




Section 1

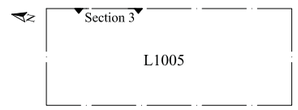
Trench 3

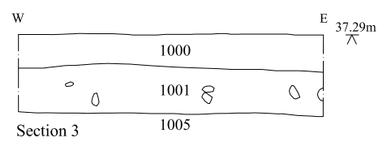




Section 2

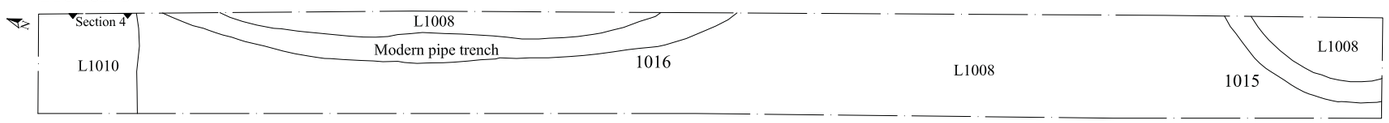
Trench 4





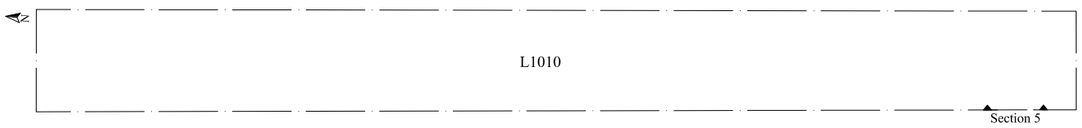
Section 3

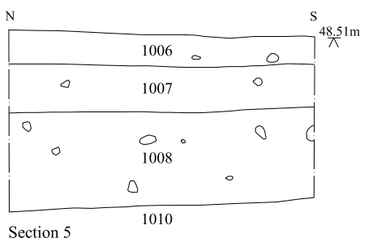
Trench 5



Section 4

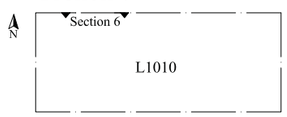
Trench 6

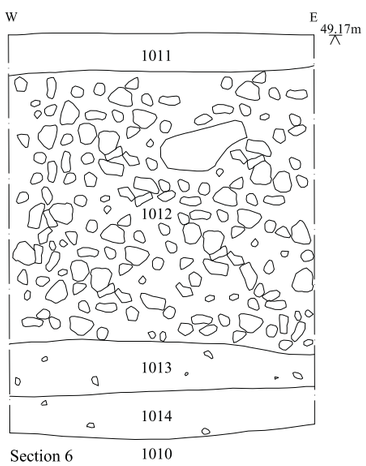




Section 5

Trench 7





Section 6

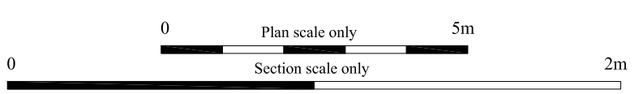


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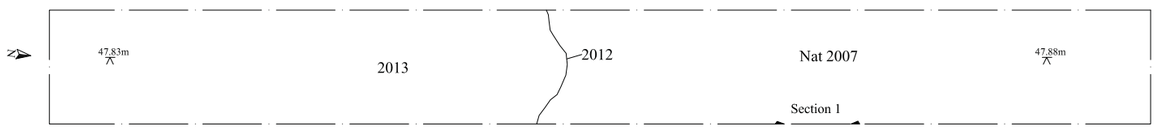
Fig. 3 Trench plans and sections

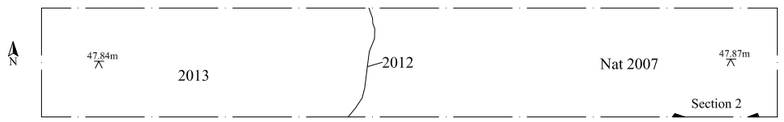
Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3

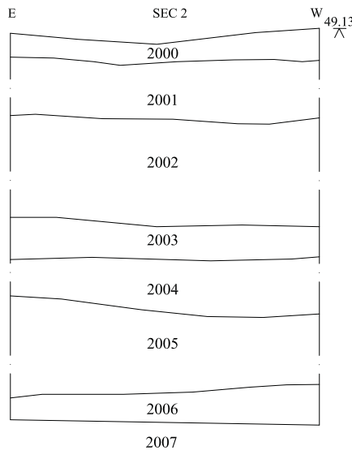
Trenches from second phase of excavation

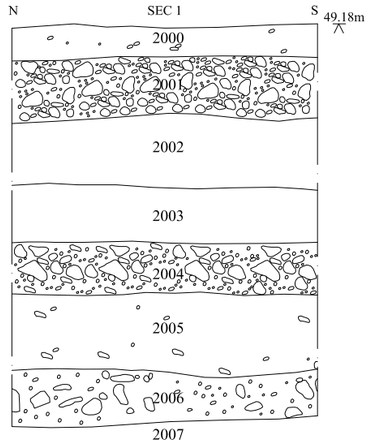
Trench 1A

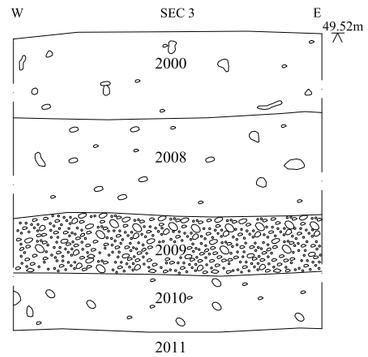


Trench 1B

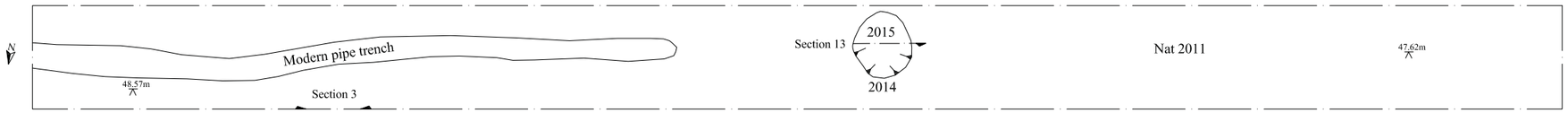






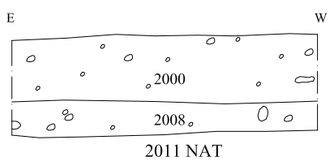


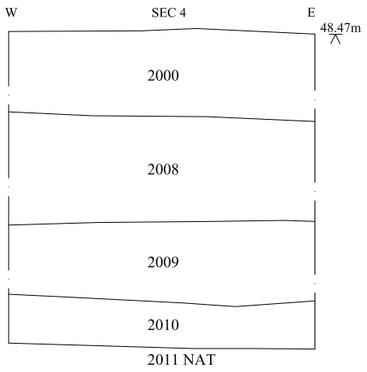
Trench 2A



Trench 2B

Sample section representative of Trenches 3-6





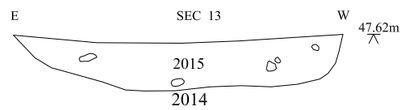


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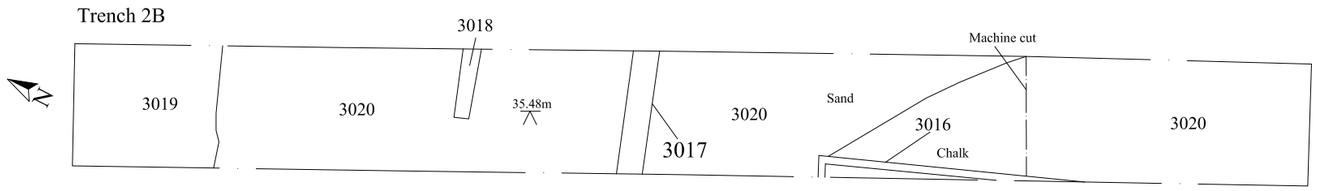
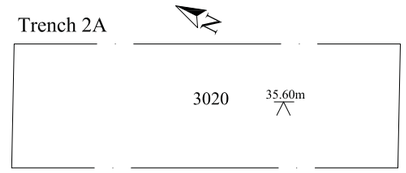
Fig. 4 Trench plans and sections

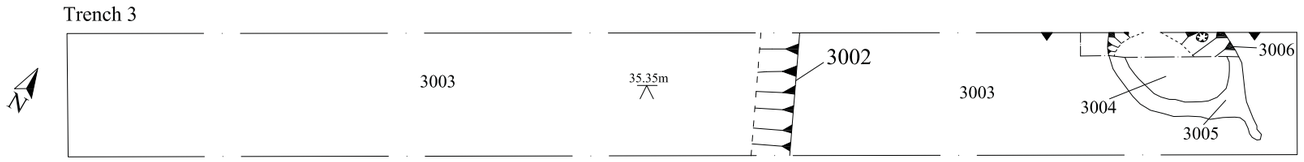
Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3

Trenches from third phase of evaluation

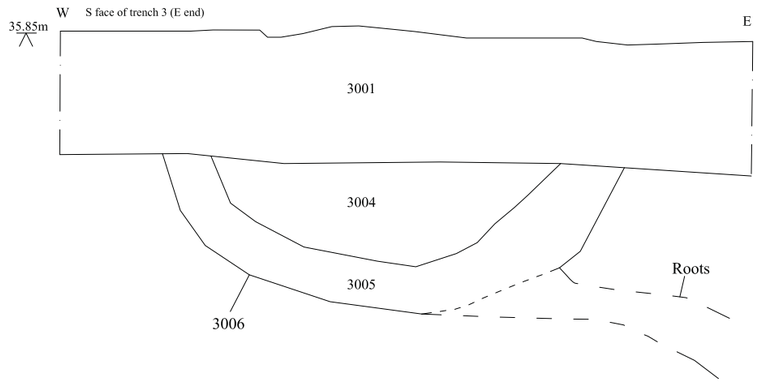


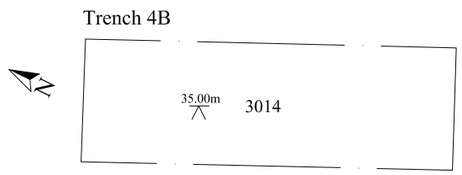
Actual distance & location between trench 2A & 2B



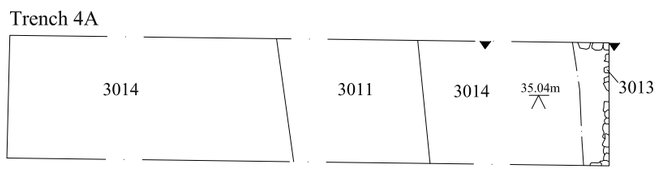


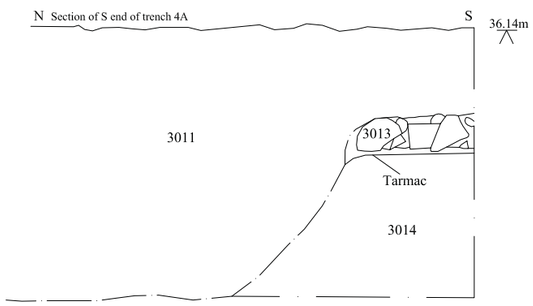
0 Plans 5m





Actual distance & location between trench 4A & 4B





0 Sections 2m

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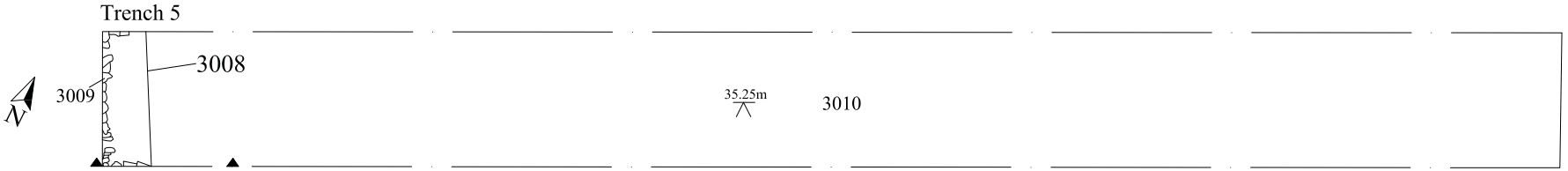
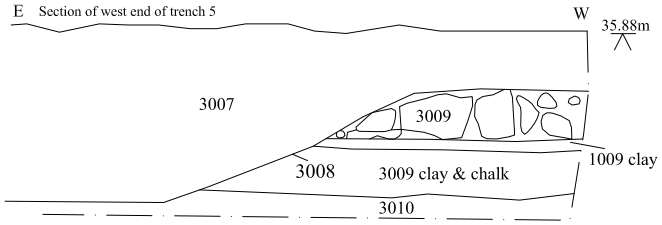
Fig. 5 Plans and sections

Scale Plans at 1:100, sections at 1:25





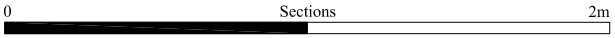


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Fig. 6 Plans and sections

Scale Plans at 1:100, sections at 1:25