



Northamptonshire Archaeology

An archaeological evaluation of land east of
The Granary, Stoke Road
Clare, Suffolk

Event no CLA061

October 2009



Jim Brown

December 2009

Report 09/167

Northamptonshire Archaeology

2 Bolton House
Wootton Hall Park

Northampton NN4 8BE

t. 01604 700493 f. 01604 702822

e. sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk

w. www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk



Northamptonshire
County Council

STAFF

Project Manager	Myk Flitcroft (CgMs Consulting Ltd)
Historic research	Tim Upson-Smith BA PGDip
Text	Jim Brown BSc PGDip MIfA
Fieldwork	Jim Brown, Daniel Nagy MA and Lazlo Lichtenstein MA
Illustration	Jim Brown and Pat Walsh BA
Metal detecting and geology	Steve Critchley MSc
Flint	Yvonne Wolfram-Murray BSc PhD
Querns	Andy Chapman BSc MIfA
Pottery	Anna Slowikowski (Albion Archaeology)
Building materials	Pat Chapman BA CMS AlfA
Metal objects and other finds	Tora Hylton
Animal bone and plant macrofossils	Karen Deighton MSc

QUALITY CONTROL

	Print name	Signed	Date
Checked by	Pat Chapman		
Verified by	Jim Brown		
Approved by	Andy Chapman		

OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	An archaeological evaluation of land east of The Granary, Stoke Road, Clare, Suffolk, October 2009	
Short description (250 words maximum)	Northamptonshire Archaeology undertook a desk-based assessment and trial trench excavation of land east of The Granary, Stoke Road, Clare, Suffolk. A moderate quantity of late Neolithic and early Bronze Age worked flint was recovered from the ploughsoil and as residual finds in later features. Residual Roman pottery and tile were also recovered. Medieval remains marked the continuation of a street frontage in a similar style to the properties that survive along Stoke Road to the north-east. A building with associated clay floor, posthole and gully features, a ditch and a pit, were present in the late 12th-14th centuries. Plots were laid out to the rear. A thick windblown soil layer accumulated rapidly as an event, probably during the 14th century. Pits and a ditch cut the windblown layer. Another building was identified in association with a gravel surface and a disturbed layer of floor tile that indicated a property present on the frontage, possibly until the 15th century. Late 19th to early 20th-century quarrying was focused in the north-west of the development area, exploiting patches of sand and gravel.	
Project type (eg DBA, evaluation etc)	Desk-based assessment and trial trench excavation	
Site status (none, NT, SAM etc)	None	
Previous work (SMR numbers etc)	None	
Current Land use	Arable and fallow scrubland set-aside	
Future work (yes, no, unknown)	Yes	
Monument type/ period	medieval and post-medieval remains	
Significant finds	Pottery, flint, quern, metal finds and animal bone	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Suffolk	
Site address (including postcode)	Stoke Road, Clare, Suffolk,	
Study area (sq.m or ha)	2.04 ha	
OS Easting and Northing	TL 7655 4498	
Height OD	c45-50m above Ordnance Datum	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Project brief originators	Jess Tipper, Suffolk County Council	
Project Design originator	Jim Brown, Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Director/Supervisor	Jim Brown, Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Project Manager	Myk Flitcroft, CgMs Consulting Ltd	
Sponsor or funding body	Charles Church Ltd	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date	October 2009	
End date	October 2009	
ARCHIVES	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Event no CLA061	Pottery, flint, quern, metal finds, animal bone, sample residues
Paper		Site context record, plans, section drawings, photographic record, finds drawings
Digital		Mapinfo digital plans and client report PDF
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Title	Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (NA report)	
Title	An archaeological evaluation of land east of The Granary, Stoke Road, Clare, Suffolk, October 2009	
Serial title and volume	09/167	
Author(s)	Jim Brown	
Page numbers		
Date	11th December 2009	

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**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF LAND EAST OF
THE GRANARY, STOKE ROAD
CLARE, SUFFOLK**

December 2009

Abstract

Northamptonshire Archaeology undertook a desk-based assessment and trial trench excavation of land east of The Granary, Stoke Road, Clare, Suffolk.

A moderate quantity of late Neolithic and early Bronze Age worked flint was recovered from the ploughsoil and as residual finds in later features. Residual Roman pottery and tile were also recovered.

Medieval remains marked the continuation of a street frontage in a similar style to the properties that survive along Stoke Road to the north-east. A building with associated clay floor, posthole and gully features, a ditch and a pit, were present in the late 12th-14th centuries. Plots were laid out to the rear. A thick windblown soil layer accumulated rapidly as an event, probably during the 14th century. Pits and a ditch cut the windblown layer. Another building was identified in association with a gravel surface and a disturbed layer of floor tile that indicated a property present on the frontage, possibly until the 15th century.

Late 19th to early 20th-century quarrying was focused in the north-west of the development area, exploiting patches of sand and gravel.

1 INTRODUCTION

Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA) was commissioned in October 2009, by CgMS Consulting Ltd, to conduct an archaeological evaluation by desk-based assessment and trial excavation of land east of The Granary, Stoke Road, Clare, Suffolk (Fig 1; centred on NGR TL 7655 4498). Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT) as the archaeological advisors to St Edmundsbury Borough Council, indicated that the site lies in an area of high archaeological importance and, in accordance with Planning Policy Guidance 16, issued a *Brief and Specification for Archaeological Evaluation* to establish the impact of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource prior to consideration (Appendix 8, Tipper 2009). Prior to the fieldwork a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by NA for CgMs Consulting Ltd and approved by Suffolk County Council (Appendix 7, Brown 2009). The project carries the Event number CLA061.

Following examination of the documentary record, archaeological trial excavation was undertaken of 5% of the application area (c1000m²). This was divided up into linear trenches, each 1.8m wide, and with a total length of 556m. Trench positions were laid in such a way as to avoid live services and to provide a comprehensive area of coverage as suggested by archaeological desk-based assessment (Fig 2).

All fieldwork was conducted according to current best archaeological practice as defined in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological desk-based assessment* (IfA 1994a, revised 2001, 2008), *field evaluation* (IfA 1994b, revised 2008), the procedural document *Management of Archaeological Projects*

(MAP 2) (EH 1991) and the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003). The material archive has been prepared according to: *The preparation of excavation archives for long term storage* (Walker 1990) and *Suffolk County Council Archive Guidelines* (SCC 2008). It comprises all written, drawn and photographic records, and all material finds and processed sample residues recovered from the excavation.

2 **DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

by Tim Upson-Smith

Archaeological desk-based assessment was conducted in order to collate and assess the historic documentation, including all cartographic sources and air photographic evidence, relevant to the site. It aimed to identify any patterns of historic land use and the positions of old boundaries that would contribute to the understanding of the site.

The Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (HER) was consulted to identify all recorded sites, find spots and previous archaeological interventions within a 500m radius of the site. The archives of the Suffolk County Record Office in Bury St Edmunds were consulted for relevant historic documentation, including maps, which may contribute to an understanding of its former land use. Sudbury Local Studies Library collection was consulted which included a number of primary and secondary sources. Parish registers and census data are less likely to assist with the history of an arable plot of land, although local histories may shed light upon its land use and former ownership. A visit to Clare Ancient House Museum in the village was planned. Unfortunately the Museum is closed between September and March.

Aerial photographic evidence was consulted initially through the HER and subsequently through references from the Record Office and Local Studies Library collections. The St Joseph's Collection in Cambridge and the English Heritage archive in Swindon were also examined.

2.1 **Historical background**

Clare is listed in Little Domesday, under the lands of Richard, Son of Count Gilbert. At the time of the reign of King Edward the Confessor, the manor of Clare was held by Ælfric, who in turn gave the Manor with his sons' assent to St John and put Leodmær the priest in place. A charter was made committing the church and the whole place to Abbott Leofstan to keep and under the protection of Whitgar, son of Ælfric. The clerics could not give the land nor alienate it from St John. Domesday records that after King William arrived he took possession in his own name. At that time Clare was worth £40, it had a market and 5 arpents of vineyard (an arpent being equivalent to 100 square perches, a perch being equivalent to between 14-28 feet; Williams and Martin 1992). Clare was granted an annual fair in 1294.

Clare Castle is first mentioned in 1090, in a grant made by Gilbert de Clare to the monks of Bec (Hatton). The castle was established by the first Norman Lord of Clare, Richard of Bienfaite, who enlarged an existing Saxon site. It is thought to be the location of the collegiate church of St John (HER CLA 008).

Elizabeth de Burgh held the castle during the 14th century when there were upwards of 250 people living there. Lavish entertainment was laid on for King Edward III in 1340, Elizabeth's cousin, who stayed at the castle and the menu included five swans, six herons and three bittern (Hatton 1996c). It was Elizabeth de Burgh who restored

University College Cambridge after it suffered financial collapse in 1338, now Clare College. This demonstrated the immense affluence of the family and the wealth of their possessions.

Towards the end of the 14th century the castle passed through marriage to the Mortimer family. It continued to be occupied until the 15th century; in 1495 it became a Crown possession and was subsequently granted by King Edward VI to Sir John Cheke. The 16th century saw the enlargement of the market and the widening of the streets of Clare at the cost of the castle and its defences. Much of the flint and timber was stripped from the castle and reused in the town (Hatton 1996c).

The Church of St Peter and St Paul, whilst possibly on the site of an earlier building, has its origins in the mid- 13th century. The majority of the fabric of the church dates to the 14th-15th centuries and exhibits a good example of Suffolk knapped flint and stone flushwork on its outer faces (Smith 2008).

Clare retains many timber frame buildings of the 15th century, many of which probably replaced or were largely rebuilt from medieval structures. The building at 4 Market Hill dates to the 15th century and is built over a vaulted cellar thought to date to the 14th century. The fine timber framed Ancient House lies opposite the church and was built in 1473. The house known as The Cliftons, located to the east of the development area, has richly decorated 16th-century chimneys (Pevsner revised 2002). The thatched timber frame and weatherboarded barns that are associated with The Cliftons are fine examples of their kind.

The market had been encroached upon by small workshops and dwellings before the 19th century and most of these were demolished in the 1830s when the market was extended to accommodate the trade and prosperity brought by 19th-century agriculture.

2.2 Historic Environment Record (HER) data

A search of the Suffolk County HER was made within a 500m radius of the proposed development area (Fig 2). The records of locations in close proximity to the site have been summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: Historic Environment Record data

HER no	Grid reference	Period	Description
CLA 001	TL 7750 4550	Medieval	Clare Priory, Austin Friars, founded 1248
CLA 002	TL 7625 4455	Neolithic	Polished stone axe
CLA 003	TL 7740 4546	Roman	Upper stone of pudding stone quern
CLA 006	TL 7732 4523	Roman	Coin
CLA 007	TL 7720 4518	Medieval	12th-13th-century pottery and 'skeletons'
CLA 008	TL 7705 4515	Medieval	Clare Castle, founded by Richard FitzGilbert, first of the de Clares
CLA 008	TL 7705 4515	Saxon	Site of the Collegiate Church of St John the Baptist
CLA 009	TL 7728 4528	Medieval	Coin, silver groat of Edward IV (or III)
CLA 010	TL 7680 4580	Medieval	Clare Camp
CLA 010	TL 7685 4585	Undated	Clare Camp
CLA 014	TL 7655 4565	Bronze Age	Incomplete socketed bronze gouge
CLA 015	TL 7705 4566	Roman	Coin, denarius of Donatus

HER no	Grid reference	Period	Description
CLA 017	TL 7701 4552	Medieval	Papal seal of Pope Innocent VI (1352-1362)
CLA 018	TL 7645 4525	Saxon	Various metal detected finds
CLA 018	TL 7645 4525	Post-medieval	Various metal detected finds
CLA 018	TL 7635 4525	Undated	Field system
CLA 018	TL 7635 4520	Iron Age and Roman	Pottery and coins
CLA 018	TL 7635 4520	Roman	Scatter of metal detected finds
CLA 018	TL 7635 4520	Medieval	Scatter of finds with a concentration towards the southern end of the field
CLA 020	TL 7692 4564	Medieval	15th-century iron dagger
CLA 022	TL 7665 4545	Bronze Age	Blade end of a palstave
CLA 023	TL 7695 4545	Medieval	St Peter and St Pauls Church and yard
CLA 024	TL 7605 4535	Post-medieval	Site of mill?
CLA 024	TL 7605 4535	Saxon	Saucer brooch
CLA 028	TL 7748 4508	Post-medieval	Water mill shown on 1809 map
CLA 029	TL 7650 4491	Roman	Mainly metal detected finds recorded during watching brief
CLA 030	TL 7680 4484	Post-medieval	Site of bridge shown on 1575 map
CLA 031	TL 7685 4540	Medieval	Evaluation within area of town ditch
CLA 032	TL 7686 4539	Medieval	Watching brief, various features of 12th century to late medieval date
CLA 033	TL 7749 4500	Undated	Shadow mark of possible leat
CLA 034	TL 7699 4527	Medieval	14th-century timber framed building with original tiled hearth in the castle bailey
CLA 035	TL 7709 4537	Medieval	Dump of building material
CLA 035	TL 7709 4537	Roman	Residual finds in medieval dump
CLA 036	TL 7713 4516	Undated	Skull found during excavation
CLA 042	TL 7690 4522	Medieval	Stone hall mentioned in documents dating to 1307, a sub-manor of Clare in 1553
CLA 043	TL 7692 4517	Medieval	Pottery found during a watching brief
CLA 044	TL 7705 4529	Medieval	Features found during a watching brief
CLA 049	TL 7706 4543	Post-medieval	Former Quaker burial ground
CLA 051	TL 8226 5041	Post-medieval	Site of Clare Gas Works
CLA 054	TL 7684 4516	Medieval	Pits found during watching brief
CLA 058	TL 7693 4542	Medieval	Clare settlement
CLA Misc	TL 7692 4538	Post-medieval	Features found during watching brief
CLA Misc	TL 7702 4528	Medieval	Finger ring from Saddlers cottage garden, see also CLA 034

Prehistoric

Evidence for the prehistoric period is limited. A polished flint axe was found c650m to the south-west of the development area (CLA 002). On the Essex side of the River Stour, c900m to the south-west, is a long mortuary enclosure and two round barrows that are Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM 32416-03). A Bronze Age socketed gouge was found on an allotment to the north of the development area (CLA 014), a blade end of a palstave was found to the north-east (CLA 022). A scatter of Iron Age pottery and coins were recovered from the field immediately to the north (CLA 018).

Roman

There are six Roman find spots recorded in the village of Clare. The upper part of a puddingstone quern and a coin were found in the eastern part of the village (CLA 003; 006). Coins have also been found to the south of Clare Camp (CLA 010; 015). Residual Roman ceramic building materials were recovered from medieval contexts within the castle bailey (CLA 035). A scatter of Roman finds was found by metal detector in the field to the north of the site (CLA 018). Other Roman finds were recovered during a watching brief for the construction of the housing estate to the south-west (CLA 029).

Saxon

Metal detector finds of Saxon date have been recovered from the field immediately to the north (CLA 018). The Saxon Collegiate Church of St John the Baptist is thought to have pre-dated the north bailey of the castle (CLA 008). A Saxon saucer-type brooch was found in the centre of the village (CLA 024).

Medieval

Numerous medieval finds are recorded from the Priory and from Clare Castle to the east of the site (CLA 001; 008). Finds have been recovered by metal detector in the field immediately to the north (CLA 018). The site of Clare Camp lies to the north, considered by some to be the former suburb of Erbury, it has undisputed medieval elements. It is known to have had gardens belonging to the medieval castle but there is some debate as to the origins of the earthworks which may be a relic landscape feature of earlier origin which is currently undated (CLA 010; Hatton 1996b; Pevsner revised 2002).

Post-medieval and industrial

The sites of mills, the gasworks and the railway station are mapped by early editions of the Ordnance Survey. Metal detector finds are recorded in the field immediately to the north of the development area (CLA018).

2.3 Map evidence

There is limited map evidence available for early Clare, typical of many medieval manorial settlements the first known maps are of post-medieval origin. There were no early estate maps, tithe maps or parliamentary enclosure maps held in Suffolk Records Office or the Sudbury Local Studies Library collections for Clare.

Hodskinsons map of Suffolk, 1783

This map was viewed in the Suffolk Records Office as a reprint in book form. It shows the site as open ground, although the map is at a very small scale (Fig 3).

Clare and Chilton, 1848, surveyed by William H Young

A photostat copy of the original is held in the Suffolk Records Office, it shows the site as an open field. The southern portion of the field is separated by a dotted line distinguishing enclosure 184a, beside Nethergate Street (Stoke Road) from, enclosure 184, constituting the larger portion of the field to the north. This division lay approximately along the axis of Trench 16, unfortunately the quality of the photostat image does not reproduce well photographically and is not illustrated here. It is uncertain what the dotted line represented, whether it was a change in ground cover, land use or a disused field boundary.

Properties extend along Nethergate Street (Stoke Road) to the north-east and stop at an unnamed byway extending north-west of the road. The site lay at the edge of the 19th-century settlement of Clare.

1st edition Ordnance Survey, 1880

The site is depicted as a vacant field and there is no indication that boundaries subdivided the site as they did in 1848. The survey is otherwise very similar with the addition of smaller outbuildings in the rear of properties to the north-east indicating an increased development of the existing settlement.

2nd edition Ordnance Survey, 1904

The update of the 1880 survey locates a quarry to the north of the site (Fig 4). This quarry was also visible as a dark variation in tone on the 1987 and 1996 aerial photographic images which appear to extend its area towards the site.

Recent Ordnance Survey maps

The modern Ordnance Survey depicts the larger outline of the field as it appears on earlier editions with the addition of Clifton's Cottage and the British Telecom and Water Pumping Stations on the east side, along the unnamed byway mapped in 1880. The housing developments at Westfield and The Granary replaced a relatively short-lived farmyard with outbuildings to the south which fronted onto Stoke Road.

2.4 Aerial photographic evidence

No new aerial features were revealed within the proposed development area. Strong contrasts of tone in the arable field to the north indicated that there is substantial variation in the geological substrate and the darkest of these variations is likely to be a quarry mapped in 1904 which has diffuse boundaries (Fig 4).

The National Monuments Record in Swindon holds the following vertical aerial photographs which depict the site (Table 2). Those highlighted in grey were selected for examination to give a broad perspective of photographic evidence over time. The oblique collection mainly focuses upon Clare Castle, the Priory and Clare Camp.

Aerial photography from 1945 reflects the site as it appears on the 1904 Ordnance Survey with the quarry pit in the middle of the field. Only the north-east part of site appears in the frame of the 1946 image and lies outside the frame of the 1950 image.

By 1986 the field had undergone several changes, a small estate known as Westfield had been built in the south-west corner of the field. A small development had also taken place on the east side of the field known as Clifton Cottages and included the Water Pumping station. A set of farm buildings lay on land adjoining the eastern side of the Westfield development, on the north side of Stoke Road, now occupied by The Granary. To the east of the farm a small plot of land which falls within the site had been marked out with paths connecting to the farm, the purpose of which is unclear from this image. It was probably a small horticultural plot.

On the 1987 images the land adjacent to the farm was no longer marked out. The quarried area can be seen on the photograph as a dark area of tone within the field which is diffuse around the edges.

By 1996 the farm had been replaced by The Granary. The land to the east of The Granary, fronting the road, was scrubland as it was at the time of the trial excavations. The quarried area is still visible on the 1996 image.

Table 2: Aerial photographs consulted

Sortie Number	Library number	Frame number	Centre point	Date	Scale
RAF/106G/LA/227	3768	2064	TL 767 449	17 April 1945	1:10000
RAF/106G/LA/227	3768	2065	TL 762 448	17 April 1945	1:10000
RAF/106G/UK/1365	336	5087	TL 772 460	3 April 1946	1:9800
RAF/106G/UK/1365	336	5088	TL 765 460	3 April 1946	1:9800
RAF/106G/UK/1365	336	5089	TL 758 460	3 April 1946	1:9800
RAF/58/463	4918	5268	TL 763 449	01 June 1950	1:8040
RAF/58/463	4918	5332	TL 769 454	01 June 1950	1:8040
MAL/80040	7655	293	TL 760 453	16 December 1980	1:12000
MAL/80040	7655	294	TL 771 453	16 December 1980	1:12000
OS/86090	12832	136	TL 761 445	14 June 1986	1:7800
OS/86090	12832	137	TL 768 446	14 June 1986	1:7800
OS/87147	13170	184	TL 765 455	11 September 1987	1:7800
OS/87147	13170	185	TL 772 455	11 September 1987	1:7800
OS/87148	13171	223	TL 772 444	11 September 1987	1:7800
OS/87148	13171	224	TL 765 444	11 September 1987	1:7800
OS/87148	13171	225	TL 758 444	11 September 1987	1:7800
OS/96245	15104	260	TL 765 454	22 July 1996	1:8100
OS/96245	15104	261	TL 770 454	22 July 1996	1:8100
OS/96245	15104	354	TL 770 445	22 July 1996	1:8100
OS/96245	15104	355	TL 765 445	22 July 1996	1:8100

2.5 Topography and geology

The proposed development area comprises c2.00ha of arable land and fallow scrubland set-aside on the north side of Stoke Road (A1092), formerly known as Nethergate Street. It lies upon the north slope of the Stour Valley, which drops continuously from the north-west towards the south-east.

The brief states that the underlying geology comprises glaciofluvial drift (deep loam) across the majority of the site with chalky till (deep clay) along the north and north-west part of the site, sloping south towards the River Stour between c50.00-45.00m above Ordnance Datum (Tipper 2009). More detailed examination of the geological substrate was undertaken on site, given its localised variations.

3 EXCAVATION STRATEGY

3.1 Objectives

The principal objective of the overall archaeological evaluation was to quantify the quality and extent of the archaeological resource and to inform further decisions regarding the suitability of the site for development. Archaeological desk-based assessment was conducted in advance of trial excavations to apply broad background information to the sampling strategy and to advise the suitable positioning of trenches.

Specific aims

The aim of trial excavation was to gather sufficient information to generate a reliable predictive model of the extent, character, date, state of preservation and depth of burial for important archaeological remains within the site. Specifically this sought to:

- Establish whether any archaeological deposits existed in the area with particular regard to any which may merit preservation *in situ*,
- Identify the date, form and function of any archaeological deposits, together with their extent, depth and quality of preservation,
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land use and possible presence of masking colluvial or alluvial deposits,
- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence,
- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practises, timetables and overheads.

3.2 Methodology

The essential procedures involved in the fieldwork were as follows:

- Archaeological excavation of a representative sample of features exposed within the trenches to provide detailed information on the presence or absence, area of extent, depth of burial, date and function of the deposits and features exposed.
- Compilation of written, illustrative, digital and photographic records that form an archive for all archaeological works undertaken.
- Retrieval of sufficient material evidence in the form of artefact and faunal assemblages, supplemented with environmental samples, to inform interpretations of the site within the context of the agricultural, domestic and industrial activities that may have been present and their relationship with the surrounding landscape.
- Keeping the Suffolk County Council Archaeology Unit Curatorial Team (SCCAU/CT) and the client informed of new archaeological developments as they arose during excavation for the purposes of monitoring and the provision of strategic discussion as work proceeded.

In the absence of any clear archaeological targets having been highlighted by the desk-based assessment and aerial photographic re-assessment, CgMs agreed a trench layout with SCCAU/CT based around a regular array of trenches providing coverage of the whole site.

Trench positions were set out by NA using survey grade GPS (Leica System 1200) and all other surveying within the trench limits was conducted using tape measures. The topsoil and subsoil were removed under continuous archaeological supervision using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket to reveal significant archaeological remains or where these were absent, the natural substrate. The topsoil was stacked separately from the subsoil and other deposits outside the working areas. Movement of machinery was conducted in such

a manner as to avoid impact on the archaeology. A tracked vehicle was used to avoid rutting.

Each trench was cleaned sufficiently to enable the identification and definition of archaeological features. A hand drawn site plan of all archaeological features in each trench was made at scale 1:100 and was related to the Ordnance Survey with significant structures or areas of complex stratigraphy planned in greater detail. All archaeological deposits and artefacts encountered during the course of excavation were recorded. The recording methodology followed the standard NA context recording system with trench context sheets, cross-referenced to scale plans, section drawings and photographs, both in 35mm monochrome film and on colour slides (NA 2003). Digital photographs were taken for reporting purposes but unfortunately heavy rain destroyed the camera. Deposits were described on *pro-forma* trench context sheets to include measured and descriptive details of the context, its relationships, interpretation and a checklist of associated finds. The record was supplemented by direct annotations of the site general plan and sections as required. All levels were related to Ordnance Survey datum. Sections of sampled features were drawn at scale 1:10 or 1:20, as appropriate, and related to Ordnance Survey datum. A representative sample of all exposed archaeological features was excavated, with basal deposits of all sectioned features investigated.

All discrete features were sampled to no less than 50% of the whole. Linear features were sampled in a minimum of 1m wide slots to determine their function and date with interventions placed at terminals and midsections to ensure secure context recording. Intersections were only excavated where the relationships were not clear in plan and a greater level of stratigraphic understanding was desirable. Artefacts and soil samples were collected by hand. Spoil and the surface of archaeological features was scanned with a metal detector to ensure maximum finds retrieval from secure contexts.

The palaeo-environmental potential of the site was reviewed on site during the excavations with the representative of CgMs Consulting Ltd and the curatorial officer for Suffolk County Council. Samples were taken from potential industrial or domestic pits within the medieval frontage. Features towards the rear of the site exhibited quarrying disturbance and were avoided for environmental purposes. Samples were only sought in deposits with a potential for the recovery of charcoal, carbonised plant remains and other ecofacts from secure and uncontaminated contexts (EH 2002). A minimum of 40 litres was taken for flotation in each case or 100% of the fill where this was less than 40 litres.

4 THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE

4.1 Summary of site development

The archaeological remains contained within the site exhibit two main episodes of activity; the late 12th-14th centuries and the late 19th to early 20th centuries. The dates of these are based upon finds assemblages, the sequence of stratigraphic relationships and the overall pattern of features. Undated features in the west of the site are likely to be the result of late post-medieval quarrying.

Table 3: Summary of site development

Prehistoric activity (Neolithic to late Iron Age)	Scattered finds were recovered from topsoil, subsoil and as residual finds in later features. There were 33 pieces of worked flint and a single piece of Iron Age pottery.
Late Iron Age to early Roman inactivity (1st to mid- 2nd centuries)	There were no finds or deposits to indicate that the site was subject to any particular land use within this time span.
Roman activity (mid- 2nd to 3rd centuries)	Pottery and tile was recovered as scattered residual finds along the top of the valley slope. Low concentrations of finds and a lack of structural debris indicated that this location is likely to be peripheral to the focus of Roman activity.
Post-Roman, Saxon and Saxo-Norman inactivity (4th to 11th centuries)	There were no finds or deposits to indicate that the settlement of Clare extended along Nethergate Street (Stoke Road) at this time or that the land was under agriculture.
Medieval occupation (late 12th to 15th centuries)	A clay floor surface with associated posthole and gully features, a ditch and associated pit were identified in Trenches 17-18 (Figs 5-6). Enclosures were laid out to the rear. A thick windblown soil layer accumulated rapidly as an event, probably in the 14th century. Pits and a ditch cut the windblown layer in Trenches 18-19. A clay floor was identified in association with a gravel surface and a disturbed layer of floor tile that indicated at least one building was present on the frontage, possibly until the 15th century.
Post-medieval abandonment (15th to early 19th centuries)	Occupation at this point of the Nethergate Street (Stoke Road) frontage ceased, whereas elsewhere along the street it continued.
Quarrying (late 19th to early 20th centuries)	Substantial rectangular borrow pits were cut to exploit patches of sand and gravel, identified in Trenches 3-7 (Fig 5).
Modern agriculture (20th to 21st centuries)	Agricultural ploughing took place throughout the modern period until recently. The scrubland set-aside first appeared on aerial images in 1996.

The distribution of the archaeology is fairly distinct. The features and deposits encountered lie fairly neatly within three main historical zones of land use. This is summarised in Table 4 and is depicted in Figure 5.

Table 4: Summary of archaeology by trench

Trench	Historical land use	Features
1	No archaeological features	None
2	No archaeological features	None
3	19th-20th century quarries	Quarry fill overlying truncated ditch
4	19th-20th century quarries	Quarry fill overlying borrow pits
5	19th-20th century quarries	Quarry fill overlying borrow pits
6	19th-20th century quarries	Quarry fill overlying borrow pits
7	19th-20th century quarries	Quarry fill overlying truncated ditch
8	Medieval rear plots	Five features, mainly truncated ditches
9	Medieval rear plots	Two ditch terminals form a crossing
10	Medieval rear plots	None

Trench	Historical land use	Features
11	Medieval rear plots	One ditch with possible ancient disturbances
12	Medieval rear plots	One ditch, fair survival
13	Medieval rear plots	None
14	Medieval rear plots	None
15	Medieval rear plots	None
16	Medieval frontage and yards	Rear property boundary and possible pits
17	Medieval frontage and yards	Clay floor, aeolian layer and one pit
18	Medieval frontage and yards	One ditch, aeolian layer and six pits
19	Medieval frontage and yards	Clay floor, three pits, occupation layers, one gully

4.2 Medieval properties fronting Nethergate Street (Stoke Road)

Evidence of activity to the rear of dwellings on the Nethergate Street (Stoke Road) frontage was present between the late 12th to 14th centuries (Figs 5-6). Two buildings were identified, one was disused in the 14th century (Building 1), the other was probably occupied into the 15th century (Building 2). A total of ten pits, two ditches, two clay floors with associated features and a gravelled path were identified in Trenches 17-19. An aeolian deposit was present, probably laid down rapidly in a single event, and probably during the 14th century. It divided the stratigraphic episodes of the buildings from each other and neatly separated all roofing tile into the period following its deposition. It did not, however, divide the datable pottery sufficiently to isolate the date of the event such that greater detail is desirable to date and understand this episode more securely.

The rear property boundaries are all in the 20th-century properties of neighbouring plots to the north-east (Fig 4). It is likely that back plots contained three distinct divisions; an immediate rear yard space, a smaller enclosed garden area and then a larger plot at the rear. The boundary of the immediate rear yard space was gully [1910] in Trench 19. The boundary of the smaller enclosed garden area was ditch [1604] in Trench 16. Ditches in Trenches 8 and 9 were consistent with the rear property boundaries to the north-east. Other ditches in Trenches 3, 11 and 12 would appear to be the boundaries of a smaller plot within a similar arrangement.

Building 1

A clay floor surface (1710) with associated posthole and gully features was identified in Trench 17 (Fig 6). This building was located c43m north-west of the road and was probably an ancillary structure within the rear yard of a medieval plot, or was a building set back from the road.

Posthole [1713] had steep sloping sides and a narrow pointed base, it was circular in plan, 0.30m wide by 0.21m deep. The fill was similar to the material comprising the clay floor, with darker greyish-brown silty clay stains. A narrow gully [1715] orientated north-west to south-east, parallel to the edge of the clay floor, was 0.24m wide by 0.10m deep in a narrow rounded U-shaped profile. Its fill was also similar to that of the clay floor with darker stains. The roughly rectangular edge of clay floor (1710) was 8.4m long and filled a hollow up to 0.18m deep that thinned out towards the edges [1709]. It was formed of hard compact light greyish yellow-brown sandy clay containing infrequent well sorted mixed gravel up to 40mm in diameter and frequent poorly sorted chalky flecks or stones up to 50mm in diameter.

Pit [1707]

Pit [1707] was circular in plan (Figs 6-7, Section 3, and 10). It was 1.78m wide at the top with eroded edges that curved gradually towards a steep near vertical side that dropped sharply into the base 1.0m below. The base was fairly flat, rounded in plan and had a central hollow that was circular, 0.13m deep, with a pointed base. The primary fill of the pit comprised friable light brown sandy clay containing moderate poorly sorted pebble flint gravel up to 80mm in diameter, infrequent chalky flecks, chalk stones up to 30mm in diameter and charcoal up to 10mm in diameter. It was overlain by firm mid- grey sandy clay with dark charcoal stains indicating higher charred content and less gravel. Sample 2 was retrieved from this fill. The upper fill consisted of firm light greyish-brown sandy clay stained by charcoal and with only occasional pebbles and chalk. Of all the medieval pits uncovered, this was clearly the earliest, undisturbed and appeared the least likely to contain residual materials.

Medieval boundary ditches

Rear property boundaries were difficult to define clearly from the distribution of trenches (Fig 5). One boundary was present aligned north-west from the road and passing through Trench 18. Parts of other boundary ditches lay in the north part of the site with the greatest concentration of features in Trenches 8 and 9. The ditches probably join to form at least one rectangular plot lying within the development area, the west, south and east boundaries of which may well be represented in Trenches 3, 11 and 12. The manner in which they connected with the other features in the vicinity of Trench 7 has been lost to late 19th to early 20th-century quarrying. There were relatively few datable finds and the medieval interpretation hangs upon three sherds of medieval micaceous pottery from a square rim necked jar in ditch terminal [906], together with a single sherd in the same fabric from ditch [1204]. All of the remaining pottery from these rear ditches is likely to be residual and is of Roman mid- 2nd to 3rd century date. The concentration of finds is extremely sparse, indicating that these boundaries were not located in close proximity to domestic or industrial activities.

Trench 3

A shallow gully [304] that was 0.76m wide by 0.14m deep was all that survived of the curved base of a possible ditch, aligned north-west to south-east. The fill comprised firm mid- orangey-grey clay silt with frequent poorly sorted pebble flint gravel up to 50mm in diameter, reminiscent of basal sediment. It had largely been destroyed by late post-medieval quarrying. It may have been the west side for a rectangular plot associated with ditches in Trenches 11-12 (Fig 5).

Trench 7

Ditch [704] was aligned north-west to south-east. The ditch was heavily truncated with only the base surviving as a shallow concave gully that curved into narrow rounded base. It measured 0.65m wide at the top and was 0.15m deep. The fill comprised firm light greyish-brown silty clay containing occasional poorly sorted pebble flint gravel up to 40mm in diameter. It produced no finds but lay on alignment slightly displaced from that of ditch [1105] in Trench 11 and could be part of a deviation in that boundary. The majority of the remainder of the trench was heavily disturbed by late post-medieval quarrying.

Trenches 8-9

Parts of five features lay within Trench 8 that were probably rearrangements along the same boundary. Ditch [804/904] was aligned north-east to south-west. It measured 1.2m wide and was sectioned at its terminal within Trench 9, where it was 0.4m deep (Figs 5 and 7, Section 14). The ditch had steep, near vertical sides with no signs of erosion at the upper edge, suggesting a deep feature that has lost its top to the plough. Its break of slope was sharp where it joined with a broad flat base. The terminal was slightly squared in plan, with rounded corners, at the base this formed a more consistent curve. The fill comprised firm light to mid- grey silty clay with orange sandy clay mottling. It contained frequent poorly sorted pebble flint gravel up to 100mm in diameter.

Another ditch terminal [906] was aligned upon ditch terminal [904] with a 3.8m gap between the two (Fig 7, Section 15). Ditch [906] indicated very similar elements in its form and composition. It was over 0.9m wide, the full width lying outside of the trench, and it had steep near vertical sides that changed rapidly to a flat base, 0.75m deep. The fill comprised firm mottled light grey silty clay with orange sandy clay patches and contained moderate poorly sorted pebble flint gravel, up to 80mm in diameter. The ditch terminal produced three sherds of pottery from a square rim necked jar in micaceous medieval fabric (Table 11).

Two short gully fragments, [806] and [808], lay perpendicular to ditch [804]. Gully [806] was 4.8m long by 0.76m wide by 0.15m deep, it appeared to meet ditch [804] at its north-west end and had a slightly tapered and squared terminal at its south-east end (Fig 7, Section 12). It was filled with firm mid- brownish-grey sandy clay containing moderate poorly sorted pebble flint gravel, up to 30mm in diameter. Gully [808] lay on the same alignment, slightly offset to the east. It was on the north side of ditch [804] and separated from it. Gully [808] was 4.72m long by 0.77m wide by 0.13m deep. Its profile and fill was almost identical to its counterpart, which produced a single medieval pottery sherd of 12th-14th century date (Table 11).

Gully [810] probably joined with the main boundary beyond Trench 8 and was aligned north-north-east to south-south-west. It was 0.7m wide by 0.24m deep and appeared heavily truncated, with only the steep side of the ditch slope turning into a flat base. It cut the top of gully [808].

The very edge of a feature was visible on the north-east side of the trench. It was too small to excavate and may have been a square pit [812]. Its fill was firm mid- to dark greyish-brown silty clay with orange sandy clay mottling and occasional pebble flint gravel up to 25mm in diameter.

Trenches 11-12

The edges of two ditches clipped the sides of the trenches. Given the absence of other features in Trenches 10 and 13-15, a contemporary date for these two ditches is considered likely perhaps forming two sides of a rectangular enclosure (Fig 5).

Ditch [1105] was aligned north-west to south-east, and along the edge of Trench 11 (Fig 7, Section 11). It was probably up to 2m wide and was 0.62m deep. It had a gradual sloping side on the north-east slope, indicative of high erosion, which dropped suddenly into a flat base at its lower end. That the eroded upper edge of this ditch is visible indicates that there has been less plough truncation as the ground drops away towards the road. The base fill comprised hard light orange-brown clay sand with moderate to frequent well sorted pebble flint gravel, up to 80mm in diameter, concentrated towards the upper horizon of the sediment. The gravel band

separated the basal silt from the upper fill which consisted of friable soft light brownish-grey sandy silty clay with occasional poorly sorted pebble flint gravel up to 30mm in diameter throughout. Whilst most of the pottery from this ditch is residual, one of the sherds is possibly late medieval, although this is hard to determine from its condition (Table 11). This may well be a backfill deposit. Ditch [1105] appeared to cut less well defined features at its edge which may form spreads, shallow pits or ancient root disturbances along the boundary, [1107].

Ditch [1204] was aligned north-east to south-west and lay along the edge of Trench 12 (Fig 7, Section 10). It was probably in the range of 1.2-1.5m wide by just over 0.65m deep, but it lay partly beyond the trench. The slope on the north-west side was sharp and steep with little evidence of erosion, perhaps as a result of being on the inside of the water flow downslope rather than by plough truncation. The curvature of the ditch base from side to base was fairly rapid and the base was flat. The fill comprised friable soft mid- brownish-grey sandy silty clay containing infrequent to occasional poorly sorted pebble flint gravel up to 20mm in diameter, chalky flecks up to 10mm in diameter and a few charcoal smears. It produced pottery, bone, shell and a small piece of tile. The pottery included one sherd from a medieval jar in a micaceous fabric, the remainder was residual Roman material (Table 11). The tile fragment may be from a medieval floor tile.

Trench 16

Ditch [1604] was orientated north-east to south-west. It appeared to be broken by a ridge of natural at the north-east end, which may indicate a change in the direction of the ditch. The ditch was over 1.47m wide, estimated at up to 2.5m, and was 1.04m deep. The profile was relatively shallow with a gently straight sloping side curving towards a broad flattish base. It was filled by mid- to dark greyish-brown silty and sandy clay with moderate to frequent mixed pebble flint gravel up to 100mm in diameter, largely comprising accumulations of dumped material. Pottery including sherds from jugs of the Hedingham and Mill Green fabric types (Table 11), animal bone, tile and hand-made brick was present in the upper layer.

A possible pit [1606] at the north-east end of Trench 16 was 1.8m in diameter. The pit was largely obscured by the upper fill of ditch [1604] which lay across the whole width of the trench. Due to a lack of clear relationships it was not further investigated. The pit fill was similar to that of the nearby ditch and it is likely to have been associated with the rear property boundary which appeared to have undergone a degree of late medieval dumping and levelling.

Trench 18

Ditch [1830] was orientated from north-west to south-east. It was 1.2m wide by 0.62m deep with sharp edges with minimal erosion, dropping steeply into a rounded ditch profile that had a narrow concave base (Fig 8, Section 9; Fig 11). The base sediment comprised friable light greyish-brown silty sandy clay (1828) with infrequent well sorted small gravel inclusions up to 10mm in diameter, 0.15m thick. Above this were natural accumulations of dark brownish-grey sandy clay (1827) containing high levels of washed-in charcoal, mixed with the sediment, and infrequent chalky flecks. It probably accumulated during the principal occupation of the plot as a deposit 0.19m thick. The top 0.28m of the ditch fill comprised lighter mid brownish-grey sandy clay (1826) with similar proportions of sediment gravel and chalky flecks, but much less charcoal staining. The ditch was recut [1825] on its south-west side with a ditch that was 0.85m wide by 0.27m deep. The profile was shallow and rounded indicating that it was hastily cleaned out without need for a most substantial ditch,

perhaps more important as a boundary than for drainage. It filled gradually with natural accumulations similar to the upper fill of its predecessor.

A windblown deposit

Building 1, pit [1707], ditch [1830] and its recut were all buried beneath a layer of fine-grained light yellowish-grey sandy silt (1703/1803/1903; Fig 8, Section 9; Fig 11). It was almost entirely sterile with infrequent grit and chalky flecks that is largely considered to represent an aeolian deposit. The theory requires testing further, but a lack of clayey content and absence of intrusive finds or large stones seems to support the interpretation. The deposit had a variable distribution that was 0.31-0.48m thick, it was deepest towards the frontage and, in keeping with light shifting material, it probably accumulated the most where wind velocity was at its lowest, in the lee of obstructing features and at the base of the valley slope. All subsequent features cut from the top of this layer or overlay it.

Its most curious feature was its apparent rapid deposition. The substantial depth is surprising and an explanation was not immediately apparent. The general notion is that a major dust storm with winds of the proportions that hit the east coast of England in 1953 could be more than capable of depositing such material in a single episode. Pottery below the layer in pit [1707] and above the layer in the cutting pits from Trench 18 was similar in date. The most significant difference was the exclusion of all tile below its level. This gives the only possible overlap of time between the two groups of finds as roughly sometime during the 14th century, which has an accepted history of poor weather conditions.

The medieval boundary ditch re-established

Following this unusual event the boundary ditch was recut (Fig 8, Section 9; Fig 11). Ditch [1823] had sharply defined steep-sloping sides that rounded swiftly to form a U-shaped profile with little indication of erosion. It filled up quickly with light greyish sandy clay containing occasional poorly sorted mixed gravel up to 30mm in diameter, frequent chalky flecks, chalk stones up to 20mm in diameter and had charcoal staining throughout. Reddish-pink flecks of crushed tile and brick appeared for the first time.

Pits to the south-west of boundary ditch [1823]

Six pits lay to the south-west of the re-established medieval boundary inside Trench 18 (Figs 5-6), all of which contained domestic refuse comprising various proportions of animal bone, shell, pottery, roof tile and occasional residual artefacts. It is probable that these pits were all associated with occupation of the Nethergate Street (Stoke Road) frontage, immediately south-east of Trench 18. The character of the pits varied considerably.

Pit [1807] was particularly sub-circular in plan and c3.4m in diameter. It cut substantially into the natural sand and gravel substrate, probably to extract the very same, the sides were irregular and unstable so that it became dangerous to dig by hand. It was excavated to a depth c2m below ground level and augered for a further 0.6m before exposing clean sand. Various differing dumps of material were cast into the pit; three distinct variations were evident in the upper hand-excavated portion. All of these fills constituted extremely mixed tips of mid- to dark greyish brown sandy clay containing relatively consistent proportions of occasional to moderate charcoal flecks, chalky flecks or stones and crushed brick or tile. Moderate quantities of poorly sorted mixed pebble flint gravel were present throughout, generally becoming more frequent and coarse in the upper fill.

Pit [1809] was 2.1m wide by 0.5m deep, it had fairly gentle sloping sides that changed quickly to meet with a broad flattish base at the top of the natural. The principal fill comprised firm light brownish-grey sandy clay with occasional mixed pebble flint gravel, chalk and charcoal up to 10mm in diameter and tile up to 60mm in diameter with a layer of large broken tiles at the base of the pit. Its upper horizon merged towards darker greyish brown sandy clay with frequent chalky flecks and stones up to 30mm in diameter. The broken tile appeared to be placed at the base to improve soil drainage and it may have been a planting pit for a small tree.

A group of four pits; [1812], [1814], [1815] and [1819], were clustered together on the south-west side of ditch [1823] (Figs 8-9, Sections 7-8). The grouping of these pits suggests that they may have been confined within a limited space in the immediate vicinity of occupation. All of the pits were partially exposed within the sides of the trench. They were generally rounded in plan, 1.3-2.4m wide, and the depths were all in excess of 0.9m. The cut profiles tended to be steep with no eroded upper edge, they generally dropped sharply towards a broad flattish or rounded base and in one instance there was a break in the angle of the sloping side towards the base. The pit fills were generally similar and the materials were contemporary. Firm mid- to darkish grey and greyish-brown sandy clay with occasional gravel or chalky inclusions less than 10mm in diameter was mixed with pottery, bone and crushed tile. Charcoal staining was moderate, but the upper horizon contained minor root intrusions and worm castes, and the likelihood is that the bulk fill materials were deposited from middens.

Building 2

The north corner of a clay floor (1913) lay within the south-east end of Trench 19, orientated in such a way as to suggest a building roughly aligned on the Nethergate Street (Stoke Road) frontage (Figs 5-6). The floor comprised compact light yellowish-brown clay, 0.11m thick, merging gradually with thin bands of dirty mid- brown sandy clay towards the upper horizon, 0.8m thick, which contained infrequent patches of charcoal, chalk and pebbles (Fig 12). This is likely to be an occupation layer compacted into the surface. Around the outer extent of the clay floor was gully [1925] which was 0.36m wide by 0.19m deep, it had steep sloping sides that met with a narrow flat base. It was filled with compact light yellowish-creamy-grey clay, with frequent chalky flecks and patches up to 30mm in diameter and occasional charcoal flecks.

Pits to the rear of Building 2

Three pits lay to the rear of the building; [1906], [1908] and [1917]. Pit [1906] was probably a latrine pit located at the rear of the plot (Cover; Figs 5-6 and 9, Sections 16 and 18). Pits [1908] and [1917] were shallower and were probably for rubbish disposal.

Pit [1906] could not be excavated safely below 1.2m depth, it was further augered to 1.8m depth before hitting gravel (Fig 9, Section 16). It was sub-circular in plan and measured 2.1m wide. The sides were steep, near vertical and very slightly eroded. Fill deposits were generally no more than 0.20-0.25m thick, indicating successive episodes of small-scale dumping during its backfill. Fill materials varied to minor degrees in terms of the proportions of gravel, chalk, charcoal or tile present but they were generally all mid- to dark greyish-brown sandy clay fills containing consistently moderate levels of charcoal and occasional ash. Domestic debris such as pottery and animal bone were common finds. At the limit of excavation the soil was

noticeably stained green, with that staining also evident in the surrounding natural, a common indication that degraded cess was present in the lower fills.

Pits [1908] and [1917] were considerable smaller and shallower, 1.26m wide by 0.52m deep and 1.7m wide by 0.74m deep respectively (Fig 9, Section 18). Both pits were roughly rectangular with rounded corners. They had steep sloping sides, curved outwards at the edges and with a sudden break of slope where the sides met with flattish bases. Fill materials comprised firm mid- brownish-grey sandy clays with moderate mixed pebble flint gravel, noticeably coarser in the latter pit, and with moderate to frequent charcoal staining throughout.

A buried soil

Overlying the pits in Trench 19 and extending exclusively within the area between Building 2 and the rear boundary [1910] lay a deposit that was 0.28-0.46m thick (Fig 9, Sections 16 and 18). The thickest portion was towards the north-west, at the rear of the plot. The soil layer comprised firm but friable light to mid- greyish-brown sandy silty clay (1904) with infrequent stones up to 100mm in diameter, frequent chalky flecks and various mixed finds. It was probably a poor quality medieval buried soil, lacking the loamy consistency to suggest horticulture, and was probably a simple yard deposit.

A gravel path

In Trench 19 hard compacted well sorted mid- grey and white rounded sedimentary river gravel (1912), with stones up to 10mm in diameter, overlay buried soil (1904) within a limited area (Figs 6 and 9, Section 18). The surface was no more than 2.9m wide by 0.1m thick and lay in a slightly curved pathway across the trench from east to west, indicating an access route from the north-east side of Building 2 into the yard at the rear (Fig 6).

A boundary to the rear of Building 2

Gully [1910] was orientated across Trench 19 from north-east to south-west and showed no continuation in Trench 17 (Figs 5-6). All archaeological remains within the Trench 19 lay exclusively to its south-east side, suggesting that it formed the rear boundary of a single plot. Gully [1910] was little more than a surface deposit 0.70m wide by 0.09m deep. Its fill comprised firm creamy yellow sandy clay with frequent chalk and gravel inclusions suggestive of soft mortar and may be the base of a former wall, the structure of which has since been removed. The boundary was aligned with the back of many of the buildings and smaller yard spaces for properties along Nethergate Street (Stoke Road) to the north-east (Fig 4).

Demolition deposits and robbing activity

Few demolition deposits survived and it seems that much of the material has been both robbed and subsequently ploughed away. Around the outer edges of Building 2 was a shallow robber trench [1914]. The trench was ragged and uneven, generally between 0.15-0.21m deep and filled by firm light greyish-brown sandy clay mixed with scattered stones, tile and other debris. Overlying this deposit, the buried soil (1904) and the gravel path (1912) was a layer of fragmented red floor tile within loose mixed mid- orange and greyish-brown sandy clay (1911) that was 0.16m thick (Fig 9, Section 18). The floor tiles were probably a later surface for the gravel path, ripped up and spread about in the demolition layers.

4.3 Late 19th to early 20th-century quarrying

The ground at the upper end of the valley slope, to the north-west of the site, had been heavily disturbed. Trenches 3-7 all exhibited an unnatural depth of deposits in comparison with the other trenches excavated upon the site. At the base of these trenches were substantial rectangular borrow pits, cut to exploit patches of sand and gravel (Fig 13). A handful of finds were recovered from these that were of Roman origin, all of which were heavily abraded and fragmentary. Given that the 1880 and 1904 Ordnance Survey maps, and more recent aerial photographs, support the presence of quarrying, it is likely that the finds are entirely residual. Since a quarry is mapped close by to the north it is probable that in its early stages it also extended into the north-west fringes of the development area. Notably a quarry in the neighbouring field to the north was mapped in 1880, also upon the valley ridge line, and the likelihood is that the late 19th to early 20th centuries saw localised extraction of aggregates for developments in Clare.

A limited investigation of the quarry pits was agreed on site with SCCAU/CT. All of the borrow pits exposed were planned (Fig 5). Four hand-dug sections of discrete pits were excavated in Trenches 4-7 and three machine sondages were excavated into the top of more extensive fill deposits. The overall pattern is that sand or gravel extraction had taken place to a depth of 1.2-1.4m below the base of the topsoil. Individual borrow pits at the base of the trenches were generally rectangular, inter-cutting features, excavated in pursuit of sand or gravel introduced into the surface of the Anglian till by periglacial ground ice activity during the late Pleistocene Devensian Glacial Stage. These pits varied in width and depth according to the extent of the deposits that were being extracted, with many of the smaller pits in the range of 2.0-3.5m long by 2.0-2.6m wide and between 0.6-0.9m deep, a depth that was comparable with the thickness of fills within the machine sondages. The borrow pits generally had steep sides that curved gradually towards rounded or flattish bases and were filled by mixed firm to hard mixed or patchy orange-brown, russet, dark brown or blackish-brown silty and sandy clays with frequent poorly sorted pebble flint gravel inclusions up to 100mm in diameter.

The borrow pits were sealed by a depth of deposits between 0.38-0.80m deep that fills a depression within the valley side. The material was initially thought to comprise colluvium, but in context of the quarrying activity it was likely to be infill. While there were minor variations within this extensive deposit, it largely comprised firm to hard mid- orange and russet-brown sandy clay with darker black-brown patches containing moderate to frequent large poorly sorted pebble flint gravel up to 100mm in diameter. There were few finds or other intrusive materials present with only infrequent residual artefacts occurring.

4.4 Modern agriculture

At present the site is divided between two areas differentiated by the extant vegetative ground cover. The ploughed and drilled arable field on the main valley slope lies to the north-west and the rough scrubland set-aside next to Stoke Road lies in the south-east. However, aerial photographic evidence has demonstrated that, prior to 1996, the scrubland set-aside formed part of the cultivated area. Whilst this may have contained rotovated horticultural ground for a short period in the late 1980s, it was still a part of the main block of farmland.

Subsoil was present upon the site towards the base of the valley slope, towards the road, where its maximum thickness was no more than 0.2m (Fig 7). The layer became gradually thinner and increasingly patchy up the valley slope and was almost

completely absent north-west of Trenches 10-12. It comprised dark orangey-brown silty clay loam containing scattered pebble flint, shell, chalky flecks, post-medieval tile fragments and other debris which merges with the overlying topsoil. The topsoil forms a layer across the site that varies between 0.2-0.3m thick. In general it is fairly evenly spread, but where the subsoil is thinnest or absent, the topsoil is generally thicker implying that the plough cuts deeper along the ridge of the valley slope. The topsoil comprised rich friable dark blackish-brown silty clay loam with frequent pebble flint gravel, occasional chalk, and infrequent scattered tile fragments and other debris that was well sorted and has clearly been regularly drilled by the farmer to remove large stones.

5 THE FINDS

5.1 Worked flint by Yvonne Wolfram-Murray

Thirty-three pieces of worked flint were found in ten out of nineteen trial trenches. All were recovered from the topsoil or were residual in later contexts. A quantification of the collected flint is presented in Appendix 1 (Table 9). The artefacts comprise one core fragment, twenty-one flakes, ten blades and two scrapers. Post-depositional edge damage is present on all of the artefacts consisting of occasional to frequent nicks and crushing of the edges. Patination is present on four of the flints, which range from a slight cloudy white discolouration to an almost white surface. The majority of the raw material is vitreous flint ranging from mid- to dark greyish-brown and mid- brownish-grey to dark grey colour. Seven pieces of flint are an opaque and granular mid- greyish-brown to dark grey colour. There is light cream to dark greyish-brown cortex present on the dorsal surfaces of eighteen pieces.

No whole cores were recovered, only a fragment was found. Removals visible indicate elongated flakes or blades. The assemblage includes twenty-one flakes, of which seven are broken, and there are ten blades, of which three are broken. There are few squat flakes, a number of flakes and blades have broad striking platforms. Several flakes and blades have hinge or overshoot terminations. The two end scrapers are the only retouched tool forms. Both scrapers have abrupt retouch on the distal ends. One scraper is manufactured from a natural flake.

5.2 Iron Age pottery by Anna Slowikowski

One residual sherd could possibly be attributed to the late Iron Age and is from ditch [1105]. It weighs 6g and is a heavily abraded body sherd. It is included in Appendix 2 (Tables 10-11).

5.3 Roman pottery by Anna Slowikowski

A total of 28 sherds of Roman pottery, weighing 209g, was assessed. All pottery was recorded by context and broad fabric group, and quantified by sherd count and weight. A full list of fabrics and forms is given in the appendix (Tables 10-11). The occurrence of different forms within each fabric was noted as were obvious levels of abrasion, decoration and any other unusual feature. This was entered onto an Access database. Common names have been used throughout the report, for ease of use and compatibility.

The pottery has been recorded following the guidelines of the Institute for Archaeologists (2001, revised 2008) and the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Darling 1994).

Fabrics and forms

The earliest pottery makes up 11.79% of the site assemblage including a single late Iron Age sherd. The Roman assemblage ranges from the 2nd to the 4th centuries. After close examination of some of the accompanying fabrics, all of the Roman material is residual in later contexts.

This small assemblage comprises few recognisable forms. Jars were identified, among which was one narrow-necked jar of possible late 2nd or 3rd-century date. The latest Roman pottery is a sherd of Oxford oxidised ware, dating to the late 3rd or 4th centuries.

Table 5: Roman pottery by fabric, weight (g) and sherd count

Fabrics	Common name/description	Sherd count	Weight (g)
R01	Miscellaneous Roman	1	19
R02	Fine white ware	3	3
R03	Orange sandy	2	10
R04	Grey ware	2	13
R05	Grey ware - coarse	9	86
R06	Grey ware - micaceous	8	68
R07	Oxford oxidised (orange)	2	8
R08	Romano-British/medieval unidentified	1	2
Totals		28	209

Pottery from ditches

Ditch [1204] produced two sherds of grey ware, one micaceous and the other in a coarse fabric that is abraded. Ditch [1105] contained a single sherd of less identifiable local reduced ware which is probably Roman. The terminal of ditch [906] produced two abraded sherds of grey ware.

Pottery from pits

Pit [604] contained a single sherd of coarse grey ware. Pit [504] produced three sherds of fine white ware, part of a coarse grey ware cordon and a sherd of micaceous grey ware. Pit [404] produced two sherds of Oxford oxidised ware, three sherds of coarse grey ware that form part of a jar and one sherd in orange sandy fabric.

Pottery from layers

Three sherds from one narrow necked jar made in coarse grey ware came from the subsoil of Trench 2. It was accompanied by six sherds of micaceous grey ware that belonged to a second vessel, which was a jar. A single sherd which may be a flange fragment in orange sandy fabric was recovered from the subsoil of Trench 16.

5.4 Roman tile by Pat Chapman

There is a tile sherd, 28mm thick, made from a hard fine pale pink fabric with occasional white streaks, and occasional small flint and grog inclusions, from context (705), the surface fill of a probable post-medieval quarry pit. This is either a thin floor tile or part of a *tegula* roof tile. A fragment of medieval or post-medieval roof tile comes from the same context. These are included in the quantification of tile in Appendix 3 (Table 12).

5.5 Roman finds by Tora Hylton

A single iron nail, 60mm long, was recovered from the base of ditch [1105]. Stylistically the nail conforms to a Manning Type 1b, which has a flat sub-circular head with square-sectioned shank tapered to a fine point (Manning 1985, fig 32). It is included in the quantification of finds in Appendix 4 (Table 13).

5.6 Medieval and post-medieval pottery by Anna Slowikowski

A total of 217 sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery, weighing 1.811kg, was recorded as part of this assessment. All pottery was recorded by context and broad fabric group, and quantified by sherd count and weight. A full list of fabrics and forms is given in Appendix 2 (Tables 10-11). The occurrence of different forms within each fabric was noted as were obvious levels of abrasion, decoration and any other unusual feature. This was entered onto an Access database. Common names have been used throughout the report, for ease of use and compatibility.

The pottery has been recorded following the guidelines of the Institute for Archaeologists (2001) and the Medieval Pottery Research Group (2001).

Fabrics and forms

Medieval pottery makes up 85.77% of the site assemblage. It is a typical domestic assemblage, comprising large quantities of locally produced jars and cooking pots with jugs whose sources are more distant.

The assemblage is very consistent, with little variety in fabrics, dating largely from the late 12th to the 14th centuries. The micaceous fabric M01 is probably earlier than the reduced fabric M06. Assemblages from rural East Anglian sites generally show a limited catchment area of c25 mile radius, usually dominated by one locally produced type (S Anderson pers comm). On this site the dominant medieval fabric is the micaceous type M01. Generally reduced, although a few oxidised sherds do occur, it is made up of jars and cooking pots, as evidenced from the frequent external sooting. Other unglazed fabrics occur in small numbers, often as single sherds (Table 6).

Glazed jugs come from further afield, mainly from Hedingham and Mill Green in Essex, but more distant examples are the fine jugs from Scarborough. A highly vitrified sherd was found in pit [1807] and could be a possible continental import. Although grouped with the 12th to 14th-century high medieval assemblage, it could be considered later medieval. The variety of glazed wares, although few in number, suggest they were used by people who were not at the lowest levels of society.

A small quantity of later medieval to early post-medieval pottery was recovered. No typically late medieval forms were found: bowls, pancheons and cisterns were absent. There was an absence of 16th-century cups and tankards. With the exception of the Brown Salt-glazed (P15) sherd from the subsoil in Trench 16, no

post-medieval or modern pottery was found. A Glazed Red Earthenware pipkin copying Dutch products was found in the subsoil of Trench 18. It dates to the 16th-17th centuries.

Most contexts contained pottery in poor or only fair condition. Pottery in relatively good condition was recovered from Trenches 17 and 19. The assemblage is generally very fragmentary with most vessels occurring as single sherds.

Table 6: Medieval to post-medieval pottery by fabric, weight (g) and sherd count

Fabrics	Common name/description	Sherd count	Weight (g)
EM01	Thetford type	2	39
M01	Medieval micaceous	148	1234
M02	Coarse hand-made	1	21
M03	Fine splash-glazed	1	10
M04	Fine oxidised	23	175
M05	Vitrified earthenware	1	11
M06	Medieval reduced	14	92
M07	Medieval hard-fired reduced	4	27
M08	Heddingham	5	62
M09	Mill Green	6	35
M10	Scarborough	6	10
P12	Late medieval glazed	3	45
P13	Late medieval oxidised	1	2
P14	Glazed red earthenware	1	45
P15	Brown salt-glazed stoneware	1	3
Totals		217	1811

Trench 17

Pit [1707] contained a single jar or cooking pot made up of 12 sherds, in medieval micaceous fabric (M01). There was also a fragment of a jug in Heddingham ware (M08), dated to the late 12th to 13th centuries. Other fills in the same pit contained pottery of a similar date. The surface of clay floor (1710) associated with a possible building contained three tiny sherds of possible Scarborough ware, dating to the late 13th to 14th centuries.

Trench 19

Pottery in relatively good condition was recovered from clay floor (1913) and the robbed wall (1914). Among the vessels, in addition to body sherds from medieval micaceous (M01) jars and cooking pots, are jugs in Mill Green ware (M09), Scarborough ware (M10) and in fine oxidised fabric (M04) with a dark green splashed glaze. The latrine pit [1903] contained only three sherds that are relatively large, together weighing 88g, and in good condition. Two are sherds from the same vessel and appear to be hand-made, and the remaining sherd is from a large jar or cooking pot, with a thumbled strip applied vertically to the body. The form is of 13th to 14th century type but the hand-made sherds suggest a slightly earlier date, possibly in the 12th or early 13th centuries.

Discussion

The bulk of the site assemblage dates to the medieval period in the late 12th to 14th centuries. There is nothing dating to the Saxon or Saxo-Norman periods, with the

exception of two small possible Thetford-type sherds, residual within the subsoil. The latest pottery is a single sherd of late 18th-century Brown Salt-glazed stoneware, possibly from Nottingham.

Almost all of the medieval pottery was recovered from Trenches 16-19, with a few stray sherds found in the field to the rear. This distribution suggests that the frontage along Nethergate Street (Stoke Road) was probably occupied in the medieval period and it has a strong emphasis on domestic and utilitarian pottery forms. It would appear that the site was not in regular use after the end of the 14th century. The small late medieval to early post-medieval assemblage suggests that the site was only sporadically in use at a later date.

5.7 Medieval ceramic building materials by Pat Chapman and Jim Brown

This assemblage of brick and tile is likely to be an early one, given the high medieval pottery date range from the same contexts and the noticeable paucity of later fabrics. At the end of the 13th century it was continental practice to export ready-made bricks from around the Baltic and Low Countries (Quiney 2003, 100). Flanders tile (quarelli de Flandria) was imported by the hundred thousands for the Tower of London in 1278 and 1283. The city walls of Norwich (raised 1294-1343) had their flint arches, window openings, arrow slits and copings finished with brickwork; and the towers and staircases were also vaulted in brick. It was only after 1500 that bricks came into more common use. Prior to 1500 brick was an expensive and specialist building material, a reflection of the affluence of Clare, and in the case of lower order dwellings was likely to have been reclaimed brick used in small quantities.

Brick

Three brick remnants are made from the same fabric as the roof tiles with the same variations in colour. The dark red brick from ditch [1604] is 108mm (4¼ inches) wide and 48mm (1¾ inches) thick. Topsoil overlying Trench 18 produced a bright orange brick, 45mm (1¾ inches) thick. The brick from layer (1911) is very similar to the floor tile from the same context, with a smooth top surface, over 40mm thick, without the chamfered edges and was perhaps used in a floor with tiles. These bricks are included in the quantification of finds in Appendix 4 (Table 13).

Floor tile

There are two sherds of plain unglazed floor tile, from layer (1911) in Trench 19. The larger is 30mm thick with the typical chamfered edge. It has a trace of black glaze on one side and a patch of overfired glaze underneath. The tile is made from fine orange sandy clay with occasional small flint and calcareous inclusions. The top is smooth and worn down to 25mm thick towards the centre. The smaller sherd is very similar and 25mm thick. A small fragment of tile from [1204] may be medieval floor tile. A quantification of the tile by context is given in Appendix 3 (Table 12).

Roof tile

This assemblage of 185 sherds of plain ceramic roof tile weighs 10.35kg. It is very fragmented with only a few sherds larger than c90mm by c60mm, and quite a few somewhat smaller. Two-thirds, 125 sherds, come from Trench 18, particularly from pits [1807] and [1809].

The fabric is almost all of one type, hard coarse sandy clay with some fine flint and calcareous inclusions and occasional large flint or calcareous inclusions up to 15mm. It is usually bright orange to orange-red in colour, with some fired to a darker red or a

duller orange, and occasionally purple to black, the latter probably for decorative purposes.

It is a very uniform assemblage since almost all are flat pegtiles up to 12-15mm thick. Two joining sherds from pit [1809] provide the only measurable dimension, the top of the tile is 163mm wide (6½ inches) with two pegholes, 12mm sub-square. There are a few other surviving pegholes, all circular and typically 12-15mm in diameter. There are no nibs. The tiles are mostly plain, only one sherd has been spotted with green glaze, and about nine small fragments have a surface which seems to indicate overfired glaze. White mortar survives on some tiles, usually as a thin skin

Two joining sherds of a ridge tile come from ditch [1604], they are 15mm thick and curved with a possible height of c150mm, made from hard dark red fine sand. A small curved sherd from latrine pit [1906] is 18mm thick, it has mortar angled across the top, suggesting a moulded hip or valley tile rather than a ridge tile (Brunskill 1978, 90). Another sherd from pit [1812] is from the apex of a curved tile, also probably a hip or valley tile. There is one sherd from pit [1809], which has apparent overfired glaze on one surface.

Discussion

The width of the roof tile is consistent with the standard set by Parliament in 1477, which was largely the formalisation of extant practises amongst many tile makers in the late 15th century. Pantiles were used in eastern England from around the end of the 17th century onwards, so these flat tiles would suggest the roof was laid before that date. The roof tile probably replaced thatch on a building that was standing from the late 12th to 14th centuries and was probably demolished in the 15th century. Pottery from the pits to the rear was mainly late 12th to 14th century date; few sherds would be expected to extend beyond this.

The distribution of the roofing tile within the stratigraphic levels may also be of significance to the site. It is worth noting that all of the recovered tile originates from deposits that overlay, or filled features that cut, the possible aeolian layer (1703/1803/1903). This means that the possible medieval building in Trench 17 was not tiled and the medieval building in Trench 19, where the aeolian layer was least well distinguished, was tiled. Whether the cause of the aeolian deposits accretion was linked to the retiling of the latter medieval building would be difficult to demonstrate and for the present remains circumstantial evidence.

5.8 Medieval and post-medieval finds by Tora Hylton and Andy Chapman

All of the finds are presented quantified in Appendix 4 (Table 13).

Metal artefacts

Part of a drawn wire pin with wire-wound spherical head was recovered from pit [1807] (cf Margeson 1993, fig 5, 31). Three nails were recovered from pits [1807], [1830] and [1906]. All the examples are forged with flat sub-circular heads and square-sectioned shanks. Complete examples measure up to 80mm in length.

There are a small number of objects which span the medieval to early post-medieval period but were recovered from the topsoil by metal detector. They include a buckle frame, a rim fragment and suspension ring in copper alloy, and a lead cloth seal.

A copper alloy buckle frame was recovered from the topsoil of Trench 15 [1502]. It has a D-shaped frame, 26mm long by 43mm wide, with a slot for retaining the pin and it dates from the 14th-15th century (cf Whitehead 1996, No 39). The cast rim fragment came from Trench 17 topsoil and would originally have been part of a large vessel or cauldron, it is everted with a thickened angled edge and resembles an example from London which dates to the c13th-14th century (cf Egan 1998, fig 131, 446). The suspension ring is from Trench 13 topsoil and has an irregular cross-section, a ring of this type may have had any number of uses and they date from the medieval to early post-medieval period (cf Margeson 1993, fig 47, 523). A lead cloth seal was recovered from topsoil overlying Trench 7. The seal represents a two-piece type comprising two discs, 18mm in diameter, joined by a connecting-strip, the latter lost in antiquity (Egan 1985). The discs would have been folded around the edge of the textile and the rivet would have been pushed through the fabric and through the hole of the other disc. The surfaces of the seal are abraded and all that remains of the original stamp is a 'W' on the underside of the rivet.

Querns

There are two fragments from rotary querns manufactured from imported lava, presumably from the Eifel region of Germany. Both finds came from well dated medieval contexts with low levels of residual material.

The larger piece is from the uppermost fill of pit [1707]. It is an irregular fragment, 60mm thick, which retains a worn, slightly concave grinding surface. The other piece is from the basal fill of pit [1819] and is a small irregular fragment without a surviving grinding surface.

Querns and millstone in lava were in widespread use in England during the Roman and early medieval periods. Their use continued post-Conquest, but they become less common in the high and later medieval periods.

Post-medieval artefacts

All of the post-medieval finds were recovered from topsoil and subsoil deposits during metal detecting and visual spoil scan; a knife blade, a fragment of copper alloy sheet, a nail and a fragment of pale green bottle glass. All of these artefacts are of late deposition and are likely to be of 18th-19th century origin.

6 THE ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Animal bone by Karen Deighton

A total of 3.3kg of animal bone was collected by hand during the course of excavation. This material was assessed to determine the level of preservation, the taxa present and the potential that a larger assemblage may present to the understanding of the economy, status and function of the site.

The animal bone was scanned and identifiable elements were noted (Halstead 1985; Watson 1979). Preservation and modification were also noted (Binford 1981). Biometrical data was noted together with ageing data, including state of fusion tooth eruption and wear (von den Driesch 1976; Silver 1969; Payne 1973; Halstead 1985). The animal bone is quantified per taxa by context in Appendix 5 (Table 14).

Preservation

Fragmentation was moderate to heavy depending on context and mostly the result of old breaks. Bone surface abrasion was at a low level. Fifteen bone fragments showed evidence of canid gnawing which attests to the presence of dogs or foxes. Nine examples of butchery including evidence for chopping and filleting were noted, both *bos* and *ovicaprid* horncores had been chopped around the base. Burning was noted on one small ungulate rib.

Ageing and metrical data

Table 7: Ageing and metrical data available by taxa

Taxa	Count	Epiphyseal fusion	Young bone	Tooth wear	Length (mm)
<i>Bos</i> (cattle)	39	10	1	1	32(11)
<i>Ovicaprid</i> (sheep)	24	10		1	11(4)
<i>Ovicaprid/capreolus</i> (sheep/goat)	2				
<i>Sus</i> (pig)	16	7			
<i>Canis</i> (dog)	1	1			
<i>Equus</i> (horse)	1				
Amphibian (cf. frog/toad)	1				
Large ungulate	6				
Small ungulate	7				

Animal bone was present in the sieved material from Sample 2, medieval pit [1707], it consisted of a *Bos* 2nd phalange and indeterminate burned fragments.

The taxa present are those expected for the medieval period, although the presence of an amphibian could also be intrusive as frogs and toads are known to burrow. The mixed nature of the deposit in terms of the taxa represented and the body parts present, combined with the nature of the butchery evidence, indicates a domestic origin for the assemblage.

6.2 Shell

by Karen Deighton

A total of 1.3kg of shell was recovered by hand from a range of contexts during the course of excavation. This material was assessed to determine the taxa present, level of preservation, potential contribution to the understanding of the site and to inform on future collection strategies. Shells were identified and quantified, and observations made of size, shape, condition, modification, and preservation (Claassen 1998). The shell is quantified by context in Appendix 6 (Table 15).

Preservation

Fragmentation and abrasion were fairly moderate. No evidence for modification was noted. Small holes were noted in two of the upper valves suggesting parasitic infestation was at a low level (4% of shells). Ornamentation in the form of ribs was noted on upper valves from eight contexts (16% of shells). The very low level of evidence for parasites and the much higher level of ornamentation could indicate a level of sunlight that suggests the oysters lived in relatively shallow water.

Taxa present

The shells were all marine oysters (*Ostrea edulis*). A total of 47 upper valves and 74 lower valves were noted. Their distribution was predominantly within 13th to 14th-

century contexts, with other shells occurring amongst post-medieval quarry pits and subsoil layers.

The presence of marine species inland suggests trade with coastal areas. Most shells were not well rounded or were of irregular shapes and of a moderate size. Seven upper valves had remains of attached oysters. All these observations point to wild collected oysters as would be expected for the medieval period. It is most likely that the taxon formed part of the diet, although a number of medicinal uses have been recorded for both the meat and the shell.

6.3 Soil sample analysis by Karen Deighton

Two samples were collected by hand from secure contexts and assessed to determine the presence, nature and level of preservation of ecofacts within them with a view to gauging the potential for contributing to the interpretation of the site and informing sampling strategies.

The samples represent the full excavated fills of the two contexts sampled. Contexts were selected for sampling where they could be shown to be undisturbed, dateable, single-event contexts. Contexts representing longer-term infilling such as medieval ditch boundaries or potentially containing midden waste and other mixed-source material, such as intercutting pits, disturbed layers and quarry deposits, were excluded. All deposits containing intrusive roots and visible taphonomic disturbances were also excluded. Subsequently there were very few deposits with clear suitability for sampling.

The samples were processed using a modified siraf tank fitted with a 250 micron mesh and flot sieve. The resulting flots were dried and examined under a microscope at 10x magnification. Identifications were made with the aid of the author's reference collection and published seed atlases (Schoch *et al* 1988; Cappers *et al* 2006).

Results

Plant remains were preserved by charring. They were fragmentary and abraded which adversely affected the identification of ecofacts.

Bread wheat, hulled barley and naked barley, both of which were common crops for the late medieval period were the main cereals present. Barley was frequently used in the malting process, whereas bread wheat was commonly used in baking. Wild or weed taxa were present as cleavers, sheep sorrel, fat hen, corn gromwell and vetch all of which are common crop weeds. The small number of oat grains present suggests that it may have been a crop contaminant rather than a specifically cultivated crop. The absence of chaff and the relatively small number of weed seeds suggest a late stage in crop processing. The mixed nature of ecofacts from Sample 2 suggests that the origin of the sample to be refuse disposal and may be from a midden.

Table 8: Charred plant remains identified by taxa

Feature	Medieval pit [1707]	
	Fill (1704)	Fill (1705)
Context	1	2
Sample	1	2
Volume	20 litres	20 litres
Charcoal*	100-200	1000+
cf bread wheat	<i>Triticum aestivum</i>	19
Hulled barley	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	27
Naked barley	<i>Hordeum vulgare var nudum</i>	8
Oat	<i>Avena sp</i>	3
Hulled barley/rye	<i>H. vulgare/Secale cereale</i>	7
Wheat/barley	<i>Triticum/Hordeum</i>	227
Cereal	<i>Cerealia</i>	151
Celtic bean	<i>Vicia Faba</i>	1
Pea	<i>Pisum sativum</i>	20
cf Vetch	<i>Vicia sp</i>	1
Small pulse	<i>Leguminosae</i>	38
Fat hen	<i>Chenopodium album</i>	2
Cleavers	<i>Galium aparine</i>	2
Corn gromwell	<i>Buglossoides arvensis</i>	10
Indeterminate weed		18
Molluscs	8	3

6.4 Geological observations

by Steve Critchley

Examination of the surface of the geological substrate was undertaken during the trial excavations. The trenches in the arable field to the north exposed the chalky tills of the mid Pleistocene Anglian Glaciation. These were orange-brown to grey-brown containing rounded and irregular clasts of chalk and flint with some subsidiary clasts of sandstones and igneous and metamorphic rock types set in stiff grey-brown clay. There were areas composed of orange-brown flint rich gravels, some of which may have been glacial in origin, but most are likely to be gravel rafts incorporated into the tills as frozen ground. The whole had been subjected to intense periglacial ground ice activity during the late Pleistocene Devensian Glacial Stage. The tills exhibited cryoturbation features as well as contraction cracks with incipient sand wedge polygon formation. All these late stage ground ice features were filled with fine silty orange-brown sands: a mixture of aeolian and slope wash deposits thereby preserving the morphology of the original ice filled structures.

With a progression down slope the tills became increasingly overlain by periglacial colluvium deposits, brown silty sands, silts and unstructured gravel clays, produced by the active periglacial layers during seasonal thaws on a south facing slope. Additionally these were in turn overlain in part by more recent arable colluvium/hillwash. In Trenches 3-7 there were signs that this had been quarried in the past and there was a pronounced change of slope. It is probable that some of the gravels, or perhaps the clay component of the tills, may have been extracted for use elsewhere.

Trenches at the base of the valley slope contained a layer of homogeneous very fine sandy silt ranging from 0.24-0.48m thick in Trenches 16-19. This material sealed medieval features in Trenches 17-18 and was cut by and overlain by other medieval

features in Trenches 18-19. The period of its deposition was therefore extremely rapid. Although its location at the base of the slope could have collected some colluvial wash and would have been within the range of the river for a high flood, there was a general absence of clay and intrusive matter in the deposit. The fine sandy silt constituents were sterile; there were no stones, no organic materials and no finds. It was reminiscent of an aeolian deposit carried by the wind. The slope morphology would allow deposition on the lower valley slopes as a response to a drop in wind velocity and therefore carrying capacity.

7 FURTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

7.1 Excavation of deposits

There is a clear overall sequence of stratigraphic relationships surviving upon the site which, in the majority of cases, can be closely dated through the associated finds. The level of residual material in the north-west of the site is slightly problematic in terms of its origin. There are areas of the site which have higher potential to expose further features of greater archaeological value than others.

Medieval structural remains and concentrated stratigraphic occupation deposits are located along the frontage of the site, adjacent to Nethergate Street (Stoke Road). As part of the evidence for the growth and development of great towns in the post-Conquest period evidence of this kind is key to ongoing research (Glazebrook 1997, 61). It will provide valuable spatial information for the date of colonisation and abandonment on the outer reaches of Clare together with the economic indicators characterising the social dynamics of the resident households (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, 29-31). Deposits and features lie within an archaeologically defined area. The level of preservation and the quality of the stratigraphic sequence is moderately good below a certain level. Statements regarding the individual households, their activities and their social and economic dynamics may be possible. There is a particular deposit of possible windblown origin that alludes to a very specific event within the medieval period that would be worthy of further research and is a specific requirement of the regional research agenda (Murphy 2000, 32). Preservation within the frontage is varied; the modern watermain is known to truncate the likely position of buildings and deposits along the frontage. Ploughing has truncated the archaeological level and a substantial portion of late medieval structural evidence has been lost so that only the base of clay floors remain. Evidence for buildings and yards is likely to be limited to the general type of construction and their shape, size and arrangements. Some indication of function may arise through associated finds or deposits. Information is mainly available from the late 12th to 14th centuries since the top of the archaeological horizon, the part that would include abandonment and demolition layers, is damaged.

Plot boundaries in the north-west of the site belong to the rear property boundaries that are better understood within the context of the settlement of Clare. Individual ditches may yield information about waterflow, sedimentation, deposition, local environment and the casual losses of artefacts. Information will be limited because most features are likely to be heavily truncated in their upper horizon and some areas may have been obliterated by later activity.

Post-medieval quarrying was identified with the use of map evidence in the period 1880-1904. The general extent of quarrying is confined within the west of the development site. The method of quarrying and the material being extracted was the only information of particular note. Most of the fills are redeposited natural sandy clay

gravel and do not contain contemporary finds of any interest. Chance residual finds may arise infrequently and the likelihood of their being of interest is minimal.

7.2 Worked flint

Technological characteristics of the assemblage indicate a date from the late Neolithic to early Bronze Age. The assemblage is bias towards residual finds from later features and deposits, thus its representation is unknown. No further work is recommended for this assemblage of finds, although the site is expected to produce further artefacts worthy of assessment.

7.3 Iron Age and Roman finds

The Iron Age and Roman finds have only moderate potential for further analysis as they stand; there is not enough to make a significant contribution to the analysis of the site other than providing an important indication of pre-medieval activity. Finds from secure primary deposits are unlikely given that all of the present material is residual, such finds will do little to expand the understanding of the site. The pottery and tile is likely to be in very poor condition and to comprise familiar fabrics and forms that are well published. Basic assessment and quantification of the material should suffice. Individual finds may be of intrinsic interest on a case by case basis but the majority are likely to be equally mundane.

7.4 Medieval and post-medieval pottery

Pottery in good or fair condition was recovered from 55% of contexts. The assemblage is small but important in that it throws light on a domestic assemblage from habitation of middling status. The widespread range of jugs shows the variety of connections of this Clare household, whether they bought in the local market or acquired them at source. Analyses of medieval assemblages from this site are likely to confirm identification and dating, and allow the assemblage to be placed in its regional and local contexts.

7.5 Medieval ceramic building materials

The medieval ceramic building materials fall exclusively within the last datable period of occupation and have an unusually distinct stratigraphic distribution. Whilst the present assemblage contains no examples of intrinsic interest, the potential for this material to enhance the understanding of the site with a greater sample is moderate to good. Specialist analysis should be able to place the building materials in the context of their functional use and, where appropriate, draw on similar examples to support statements about the materials used. Since the majority of building materials lie stratigraphically above a date horizon it is essential to understand their relationship with the other late medieval deposits upon the site.

7.6 Medieval and post-medieval finds

The small number of artefacts and generally low level of metal detected finds indicates that artefacts of interest are likely to comprise individual finds rather than parts of groups or assemblages. Most of these may support statements for their general use, purpose or activity and are likely to be effected by the domestic status of the site, the level of affluence of inhabitants and the fashions of the period. It is less likely these will be tied to specific contexts. Iron nails and other building fixtures or

fittings may reveal greater information about the nature of any structures upon the site and may be relevant to specific contexts.

7.7 Animal bone

Approximately 75% of the assemblage could be identified to taxa, and a small amount of ageing and metrical data is available. This suggests that with a larger assemblage statements could be made concerning the economy and function of the households that produced this waste. This is a small reasonably well preserved assemblage of common domesticates which indicates that the site is likely to produce material with a high potential for future work.

7.8 Shell

A reasonable quantity of shell was collected, it was fairly well preserved and approximately 80% could be identified to valve and taxon, furthermore information on the environment from which the oysters originated was available. Further material would provide useful information on the economy of the site. It is recommended that all shell be collected and retained for analysis and would provide a useful comparison for future work in the region by expanding the corpus of existing work.

7.9 Environmental samples

Ecofacts were present in fairly substantial quantities and were reasonably well preserved. Further sampling of similarly secure undisturbed dateable contexts should be undertaken. Statements regarding the nature of household diet, food processing and waste disposal are likely to be possible. It is likely that with a larger assemblage of this calibre further work would be of value and standard practises of sampling should be applied (EH 2002). Great care should be exercised to select suitable deposits for sampling as there is the possibility that certain deposits may constitute single dumps of accumulated midden waste which, whilst of value, limits such statements within a more general scope. It is desirable to date, isolate and quantify any evidence for a specific event within the medieval period that would create an aeolian deposit in pursuit of the regional research agenda (Murphy 2000, 32). Any additional fieldwork should attempt to address the nature, origin and extent of this deposit in greater detail.

8 CONCLUSION

Finds scatters and artefacts of earlier date, residual in later features, indicate that there was a presence in the Neolithic, early Bronze Age, late Iron Age and Roman periods. The low quantity of material and lack of features producing finds exclusively of these dates suggests that the focus of activity during these periods lay outside of the site.

The archaeology of the site is divided into two principal historical periods that are generally confined to specific zones within the development area. Medieval occupation existed along the frontage of Nethergate Street (Stoke Road), with rear yard spaces extending back from the road. Late 19th to early 20th-century sand and gravel extraction extended onto the site from the north-west.

In the north-west side of the site, the effects of late 19th to early 20th-century quarrying and modern plough damage on the upper valley slope have severely truncated rear boundary remains and a continuation to the west may have been largely lost. Those features that are present are likely to comprise a pattern of inter-connecting plot boundaries, with dispersed smaller features along their limits. Extensive medieval activity within the back plots seems unlikely on the basis of low artefact concentrations. Residual prehistoric and Roman finds do not appear to have source features that are not already related to the medieval pattern or dated by medieval pottery fabrics. The quality of residual material is poor and badly abraded, unlikely to contribute much by detailed study.

In the south-east of the site, next to the road, medieval remains exhibit occupation and development of the frontage and its rear yard spaces. The date range lay mainly between the late 12th to 14th centuries with roof tile evidence suggesting a continuation into the 15th century. These deposits survive in good condition and have high artefact and environmental potential that would contribute to the understanding of individual households occupying Nethergate Street (Stoke Road) during the high medieval and late medieval periods. An unusual deposit of aeolian origin is also of particular interest and may indicate an event of environmental significance for the period that could provide a valuable dating horizon in this part of Suffolk. Modern plough activity is likely to have removed the top level of abandonment deposits and there are no protective layers surviving. The topsoil and subsoil layers combined have a thickness no more than 0.28m in this locality before the archaeological level is encountered.

Much of the late 19th to 20th-century quarrying activity is by its very nature churned up and redeposited natural glacial drift material that has also collected residual artefacts during the quarrying process. The pits are unlikely to produce finds or environmental data of reliable value as a result of this process. None of the quarry fills can be considered as secure single context deposits for sampling purposes.

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APPENDICES

A1 Flint quantification

Table 9: Summary of the collected flint

Context	SF	Flake/blade	Portion	Comments
102	6	Flake	Whole	Post-depositional edge damage, brown staining on ventral surface
102	28	Flake	Proximal	Broad striking platform, squat flake
102	31	Natural	-	-
102	-	Natural	-	-
202	32	Flake	Whole	Broad cortical striking platform
502	-	Natural	-	-
702	34	Flake	Whole	Broad striking platform, start of a hinge termination
702	35	Flake	Whole	Poor quality raw material, hinge termination, post-depositional edge damage
801	36	Flake	Whole	
807	54	Flake	Whole	squat flake, broad striking platform, post-depositional edge damage
809	55	Natural	-	-
1001	38	Core fragment	-	-
1203	40	Flake	Whole	Post-depositional edge damage
1401	41	Natural	-	-
1501	43	Flake	Whole	Bending initiation, heavy post-depositional edge damage, broad striking platform
1501	49	Flake	Whole	Squat flake
1602	45	Flake	Whole	Broad striking platform
1701	2	Flake	Whole	Large bulb of percussion , broad striking platform, heavy un-patinated post-depositional edge damage
1702	1	Flake	Proximal	Cortical striking platform, edge damage
1704	24	Scraper, end	Whole	Neolithic, abrupt retouch on distal end, edge damage on lateral edges
1705	4	Scraper, end	Whole	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, abrupt retouch on distal end, edge damage on lateral edges
1801	42	Natural		
1802	5	Blade	Whole	Distal end broadens out, overshot termination
1802	-	Natural	-	-
1804	9	Blade	Distal	Post-depositional edge damage
1804	10	Flake	Medial	-
1804	11	Natural	-	-
1804	12	Blade	Whole	Small narrow blade
1804	13	Flake	Whole	Broad striking platform, slight post-depositional edge damage
1804	14	Blade	Whole	Previous blade removals, also previous hinge termination removals
1804	15	Natural	-	-
1804	16	Natural	-	-
1805	17	Blade	Whole	Overshot termination
1805	18	Flake	Whole	Flawed raw material, broad striking platform
1805	19	Blade	Proximal	Distal end snapped off, previous blade removals
1806	20	Blade	Distal	Distal end of a blade
1806	21	Flake	Whole	Broad striking platform, slight post-depositional edge damage
1806	22	Blade	Whole	Overshot termination, post-depositional edge damage
1808	23	Natural	-	Thermal spall?

Context	SF	Flake/blade	Portion	Comments
1818	26	Flake	Proximal	Broad cortical striking platform, possible blade fragment
1818	27	Flake	Proximal	Possibly a blade fragment, broad striking platform
1902	46	Flake	Distal	Thermal fractured surfaces present
1907	56	Blade	Whole	Previous blade removals visible
1914	30	Flake	Distal	Possible distal end of a blade
1914	33	Blade	Distal	Relatively large blade, post-depositional edge damage

A2 Pottery quantifications

Table 10: Pottery dates by context

Trench	Context	Condition	Date	Comments
2	202	F	LRB	Subsoil, 2nd-3rd C
4	403	P	LRB	Pit [404], 3rd-4th C
5	502	P	ERB?	Quarry pit fill, residual, 19th-20th C tile fragment
5	521	P	ERB	Quarry pit [522], residual
6	603	P	RB?	Quarry pit [604], residual
8	807	P	MED	Ditch [808], tile
9	903	F	MED	Ditch [904], 12th-14th C
9	905	F	MED	Ditch [906]
11	1103	P	MED	Ditch [1105]
12	1203	P	MED	Ditch [1204]
13	1302	F	MED	Subsoil, possibly early med?
15	1501	P	MED	Topsoil
15	1502	F	MED	Subsoil, possibly early med?
16	1602	P	PM	Subsoil
16	1603	F	MED	Ditch [1604], CBM present
17	1701	P	LMED	Topsoil
17	1702	F	MED	Subsoil, possibly early med?
17	1704	F	MED	Top fill, pit [1707], late 12th-13th C
17	1705	G	MED	Middle fill, pit [1707], 12th-14th C
17	1706	P	MED	Base fill pit [1707], 12th-14th C
17	1710	P	MED	Clay floor, 13th-14th C
18	1802	F	LMED	Subsoil, late med, 15th-16th C with residual
18	1804	F	MED	Pit [1807], peg tile
18	1805	F	MED	Pit [1807], 13th-14th C
18	1806	P	MED	Pit [1807], late 12th-13th C
18	1808	P	MED	Pit [1809], roof tile, late 12th-14th C
18	1810	F	MED	Pit [1812], late 12th-14th C
18	1811	F	MED	Pit [1812], late 12th-14th C
18	1813	P	MED	Pit [1814]
18	1815	F	MED	Pit [1816], late 12th-14th C
18	1818	P	MED	Pit [1819], crushed brick, late 12th-14th C
18	1826	F	MED	Ditch [1830], late 12th-14th C
19	1901	P	MED	Topsoil, late 12th-14th C
19	1907	G	MED	Pit [1903], late 12th-14th C, possibly early med?
19	1911	P	MED	Layer of broken tile, late 12th-14th C
19	1913	G	MED	Clay floor, 13th-14th C
19	1914	F	MED	Robbing of wall (1913)
19	1915	F	MED	Pit [1917], late 12th-14th C
19	1916	P	MED	Pit [1917], late 12th-14th C
19	1919	F	MED	Pit [1906], Possibly late med?
19	1921	G	MED	Pit [1906]; 13th-14th or possibly 15th-16th?

Key to Table 10

Condition

- F Fair, average condition, mostly unabraded, some diagnostic sherds
 G Good, better than 'fair', unabraded diagnostic sherds, usually with more than one belonging to same vessel, consistent spotdate
 P Poor, poorer condition than 'fair', small, usually single abraded, undiagnostic sherds

Date

- RB Roman, 1st-4th centuries
 ERB early Roman, 1st-2nd centuries
 LRB late Roman, 2nd-3rd or 3rd-4th centuries, noted in comments
 MED medieval, generally 12th-14th centuries, but further refinements are suggested where possible
 PM post-medieval, 16th-18th century

Table 11: Pottery forms by context

Context	Fabric	Form	Sherds	Wt (g)	Comments
202	R05	JARN	3	56	1 vessel
202	R06	JAR	6	62	1 vessel
403	R03		1	2	
403	R05	JAR	3	23	
403	R07		2	8	Micaceous
502	R01		1	19	Sandy with red grog, flat, possibly not a vessel
521	R02		3	3	
521	R05		1	2	Cordon?
521	R06		1	2	
603	R05		1	2	Micaceous
905	M01	JAR	3	33	Square rim necked jar, early med?
905	R04	JAR	2	13	Abraded
1103	IA		1	6	Late Iron Age, fine smooth, slightly micaceous
1103	R08		1	2	Hard reduced fabric, Roman or late medieval
1203	M01	JAR	1	10	
1203	R05		1	3	Red core, abraded
1203	R06		1	4	
1302	M02	JUG	1	21	Fine with coarse inclusions
1501	M08	JUG	1	8	White residue and sooting
1502	EM01	JAR	1	30	Thumbed applied strip too thin for large jar
1502	M01	JAR	4	60	3 sooted
1602	M01		1	7	
1602	P15		1	3	Brown salt glaze
1602	R03		1	8	Flange fragment?
1603	M01		5	30	4 sooted
1603	M08	JUG	1	3	Hedingham
1603	M09	JUG	1	2	Mill Green
1701	M01		2	4	
1701	P13		1	2	
1702	EM01	JAR	1	9	
1702	M01	JAR	4	39	
1704	M01		8	58	7 sooted, 1 white residue
1704	M04	JUG	5	37	1 vessel, painted thin red horizontal strip
1705	M01		6	115	4 sooted
1705	M01	JAR	12	199	1 vessel, sooted exterior, white residue
1705	M08	JUG	1	25	
1706	M03	BWL	1	10	Sooted, glazed interior
1710	M10	JUG	3	2	

Context	Fabric	Form	Sherds	Wt (g)	Comments
1802	M01	JAR	3	27	3 sooted
1802	M04		1	46	Sooted, sparse splash of green glaze interior
1802	M06		2	7	
1802	M07		1	12	
1802	M09	JUG	1	6	Unfluxed glaze
1802	P14	PKIN	1	45	Copying Dutch
1804	M01		32	169	
1804	M01		11	34	1 vessel, oxidised version, light brown
1804	M01		4	46	oxidised version, light brown
1804	M04	JUG	3	16	Oxidised fabric, dribble of clear glaze
1804	M05		1	11	Stoneware? Vitrified earthenware
1805	M01		3	9	
1805	M04		1	4	
1805	M07		3	15	
1805	M08	JUG	1	21	Stamped concentric circles, possible face mask
1806	M06		2	8	
1806	M08		1	5	
1808	M04		1	2	Unglazed
1810	M01		6	29	
1810	M04		2	6	
1810	M06		2	28	
1810	M09		2	4	White slip decoration
1811	M01		2	13	
1811	M04		1	3	
1813	M01		1	8	Coarser than normal, early med?
1815	M01		2	19	Oxidised version
1815	M01	JAR	10	72	
1815	M09	JUG	1	8	White slip exterior, copper flecked glaze
1818	M01		1	3	
1818	M04		1	4	
1818	M06		3	10	
1826	M01		2	16	1 applied thumbed strip
1901	M01		1	11	
1901	M04		1	5	
1903	M01		2	14	Sooting
1907	M01		3	88	2 high medieval 13th-14th C form, large cup with applied thumbed strip
1911	M04	JUG	2	7	Possibly 17th C, not very micaceous
1913	M01	JAR	6	44	
1913	M01	JAR	1	9	Oxidised
1913	M04	JUG	5	45	1 vessel, dark green splashed glaze
1913	M09	JUG	1	15	Patchy white slip, interior white residue
1913	M10	JUG	3	8	1 Vessel
1914	M01		7	30	
1915	M01		2	31	
1915	M06		2	8	
1916	M01		3	7	
1919	M06		2	26	
1921	M06		1	5	
1921	P12	JUG	3	45	1 vessel, scar on body

Key to Table 11

Form		Fabric	
BWL	Bowl		See Tables 5 and 6, main text
JAR	Jar		
JARN	Narrow-necked jar		
JUG	Jug		
PKIN	Pipkin		

A3 Tile quantification*Table 12: Quantification of tile by context*

Context	Sherd count	Weight (g)	Comments
809	3	76	Peghole
1103	6	171	
1203	8	234	
1301	1	143	
1603	11	969	Ridge tile sherds
1801	3	197	Peghole
1804	40	2349	Pegholes, purple/black sherd
1805	10	308	
1806	4	183	
1808	27	2420	163mm wide (6½ inches), pegholes
1810	17	646	curved tile
1811	3	60	
1815	1	43	
1817	16	712	pegholes, spotted green glaze
1818	4	66	
1905	6	266	purple/black sherd
1911	22	962	pegholes, purple/black sherd
1920	1	213	
1921	2	334	curved tile
Totals	185	10352	

A4 Finds quantification*Table 13: Quantification of finds by context*

Context	Description	Comments
202	Glass	Pale green, bottle
701	Cu alloy strip	Undiagnostic
701	Pb cloth seal	Double disc, stamped 'W'
1104	Fe nail	Manning Type 1b
1301	Cu alloy suspension loop	Medieval or early post-medieval
1502	Fe knife blade	19th-20th C
1502	Cu alloy buckle frame	D-shaped, 14th-15th C
1603	Brick	Dark red, 108mm (4¼ inches) wide and 48mm (1¾ inches) thick
1701	Cu alloy cast rim	Vessel or cauldron, 13th-14th C
1704	Quern	Fragment
1801	Brick	Bright orange, 45mm (1¾ inches) thick
1802	Fe nail	Flat sub-circular head and square-sectioned shank
1804	Cu alloy pin	Sewing or embroidery
1810	Fe nail	Flat sub-circular head and square-sectioned shank
1818	Quern	Fragment
1826	Fe nail	Flat sub-circular head and square-sectioned shank
1911	Brick	Smoothed top surface, 40mm thick
1920	Fe nail	Flat sub-circular head and square-sectioned shank

A5 Animal bone quantification

Table 14: Quantification of animal bone per taxa by context

Cut/kill	Feature	Bos	Ovicaprid	Sus	Equus	Canid	Ovicaprid or capreolus	Amphibian	Large ungulate	Small ungulate	Total
904/903	Ditch	2	1								3
906/905	Ditch	1									1
1105/1103	Ditch		1								1
1502	Subsoil		2								2
1602	Subsoil	1	1								2
1604/1603	Linear	2	2						1		5
1702	Subsoil	4									4
1707/1704	Pit	4	4	1							9
1707/1705	Pit	10	2	4					1		17
1707/1706	Pit			1				1			2
1708	Clay floor										1
1715/1714	Gully	1		1							1
1802	Subsoil	1	1							1	3
1807/1804	Pit	4		3	1				1	2	11
1807/1805	Pit	1				1					2
1807/1806	Pit		1								1
1812/1810	Pit	1	1	2			1		1	2	8
1814/1813	Pit								1		1
1816/1815	Pit	1	7								8
1819/1818	Pit			1					2		3
1908/1907	Pit	1		2						1	4
1911	Layer	1									1
1913	Clay floor	1		1							2
1914	Wall robbing deposit	2									2
1917/1915	Pit						1				3
1906/1918	Pit	1									2
Totals		39	24	16	1	1	2	1	6	8	98

A6 Shell quantification*Table 15: Quantification of shell by context*

Trench	Cut/fill	Feature	Number of valves	
			Upper	Lower
2	202	Subsoil	1	
9	904/903	Ditch	1	
9	906/905	Ditch		1
11	1105/1103	Ditch		1
14	1402	Subsoil		5
16	1602	Subsoil		3
16	1604/1603	Ditch/quarry pit		1
17	1702	Subsoil	1	
17	1707/1704	Pit	2	2
17	1707/1705	Pit	2	4
18	1802	Subsoil	2	4
18	1807/1804	Pit	3	5
18	1807/1805	Pit	1	
18	1807/1806	Pit		2
18	1812/1810	Pit		1
18	1819/1818	Pit	1	1
18	1825/1824	Ditch	1	3
18	1830/1827	Ditch	26	29
19	1902	Subsoil	1	4
19	1911	Layer	3	1
19	1914	Wall robbing deposit	1	
19	1906/1918	Pit		1
Totals			46	67

**A WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON
LAND EAST OF THE GRANARY
CLARE, SUFFOLK**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A planning enquiry has been submitted by Charles Church Ltd for residential development at Land East of the Granary, Clare, Suffolk (centred on NGR TL 7655 4498). The proposal is for the extension of the neighbouring housing development at The Granary, as infill between the existing estate and the pumping station (Fig 1).
- 1.2 Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Conservation Team as the archaeological advisors to St Edmundsbury Borough Council, has indicated that the site lies in an area of high archaeological importance. It has been advised that a programme of archaeological evaluation should be undertaken to establish the impact of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource prior to consideration of the application in accordance with Planning Policy Guidance 16 (November 1990, para 21).
- 1.3 This document has been prepared by Northamptonshire Archaeology on behalf of CgMs Consulting Ltd who are acting for the client. It describes the proposed methodology to be undertaken for a Desk-based Assessment and subsequent trial trench evaluation. This document has been prepared to meet the requirements of the Brief issued by Suffolk County Council (Tipper 2009). All of the agreed terms are subject to the approval of CgMs Consulting Ltd who may make alternative arrangements with Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Conservation Team as deemed necessary.
- 1.4 Northamptonshire Archaeology is an Institute of Archaeologists (IfA) registered organisation (No.48). This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the desk-based assessment and the subsequent programme of fieldwork has been prepared in accordance with current best archaeological practice as defined in the Institute of Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological desk-based assessment* (IfA 1994a, revised 2001, 2008), *field evaluation* (IfA 1994b, revised 2008), the procedural document *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP 2)* (EH 1991) and the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site lies in an area of high archaeological importance in the valley of the River Stour and is recorded in the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (HER). An extensive multi-period settlement site is recorded immediately to the north of the application area (HER CLA018). A Roman settlement area is also recorded to the west, but has not been the subject of systematic archaeological investigation. The Ordnance Survey maps a number of historic sites in Clare, including a Priory, a Castle and an earthwork called Clare Camp.
- 2.2 The proposed development area comprises c2.00ha of arable land and fallow scrubland set-aside on the north side of Nethergate Street (A1092). The underlying geology comprises glaciofluvial drift (deep loam) across the majority of the site with chalky till (deep clay) along the north and north-west part of the site, sloping south towards the River Stour between c50.00-45.00m above Ordnance Datum (Tipper 2009).

3 OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 It is the principal objective of the overall archaeological evaluation to quantify the quality and extent of the archaeological resource and inform further decisions regarding the suitability of the site for development. This will be achieved through a combined programme of Archaeological Desk-based Assessment and trial trench evaluation with the former conducted in advance to advise the suitable positioning of evaluation trenches.
- 3.2 Archaeological Desk-based Assessment will collate and assess the historic documentation, including all cartographic sources and air photographic evidence, relevant to the site. It will identify any patterns of historic land use and the positions of old boundaries that would contribute to the understanding of the site.
- 3.3 The aim of the trial trench evaluation is to gather sufficient information to generate a reliable predictive model of the extent, character, date, state of preservation and depth of burial for important archaeological remains within the application area. Specifically this will:
- Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area with particular regard to any which merit preservation *in situ*.
 - Identify the date, form and function of any archaeological deposit, together with its extent, depth and quality of preservation.
 - Evaluate the likely impact of past land use and possible presence of masking colluvial or alluvial deposits.
 - Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
 - Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practises, timetables and overheads.

4 METHODOLOGY

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

- 4.1 The Suffolk County HER shall be consulted to identify all recorded sites, find spots and previous archaeological interventions within 1km radius of the site. This shall include attention to the remains of all periods such as the multi-period settlement evidence (HER CLA018), as well as other important historic sites such as the Priory, the Castle and the earthwork called Clare Camp, which all played an important role in determining the historic land use of the area.
- 4.2 The archives of the Suffolk Record Office shall be consulted for relevant historic documentation of the site that may contribute to an understanding of its former land use. Such documentation shall include cartographic sources, Tithe maps and plans, photographs and photographic histories, prints, title deeds, wills, sale catalogues, trade directories and any other relevant primary or secondary documentation held within the archives.
- 4.3 Sudbury Local Studies Library shall be consulted to examine their collection of resources which includes a number of primary and secondary sources. Although it is anticipated that the parish registers and census data are less likely to assist with the history of an arable plot of land, local histories may shed light upon its land use and former ownership.

- 4.4 Enquiries will be made with Clare Ancient House Museum in the village of Clare to examine their collections and get a good broad overview of the local settlement history as well as highlighting other possible resources.
- 4.4 The historic cartographic evidence shall be collated and presented as a map regression defining historic field boundaries and buildings within the development area.
- 4.5 The aerial photographic evidence for archaeological features within the development area shall be consulted initially through the HER and shall subsequently incorporate references for any aerial photographs brought to light from the Record Office and Local Studies Library collections. If insufficient aerial photographic evidence exists, the St Joseph's collection in Cambridge and the English Heritage archive in Swindon may be examined. Where new evidence is revealed that has not already been plotted it shall be rectified and the features plotted by an experienced and qualified specialist at a scale of 1:2500, including extant mapped features such as major field boundaries and buildings.
- 4.6 The results of the Desk-based Assessment shall be used to inform the strategy and location of trial trenches in the subsequent stage of fieldwork. Trench locations will be agreed with Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Conservation Team as the archaeological advisors to St Edmundsbury Borough Council before fieldwork commences and a trench plan produced as a supplement to this WSI in accordance with the Brief (Tipper 2009, 4.2). There will be a period of 5 days notice before beginning the excavations.

Trial trench evaluation

- 4.7 There shall be a total of c1000.00m² excavation comprising 5% of the application area. This shall be divided up between linear trenches, unless otherwise specified by the client and Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Conservation Team. Trenches shall be 1.80m wide and the total length of trenches shall be 556.00m. Any additional excavation that may be required by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Conservation Team will be treated as a variation to this strategy and subject to revision.
- 4.8 The locations of all excavated areas will be plotted on the ground using Leica 1200 survey equipment or measured into existing property boundaries marked on the Ordnance Survey. All site levels will be related to Ordnance Datum.
- 4.9 Topsoil, subsoil and non-structural garden soils or modern overburden will be removed under archaeological supervision by mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. The surface of significant archaeological remains will be exposed or, where these are absent, the natural substrate. Excavation will proceed in a manner taking care that any structures of potential value for preservation *in situ* will not be damaged by evaluation. The excavated area will be cleaned by hand sufficiently to enhance the definition of features and deposits. The topsoil will be stacked separately from the subsoil and other deposits.
- 4.10 All features and layers of potential significance will be sampled by hand excavation to determine their date and character. Linear features will be examined in 1m wide sections and pits or post-holes subject to a 50% sample excavation. Features requiring more specialist attention such as kilns, wells, buildings and other significant industrial or domestic features will be planned and sampled but 100% excavation will only take place if required by the client and Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Conservation Team. Full excavation of significant industrial or domestic features of this kind would be treated as a financial contingency and would normally only take place as part of the mitigation scheme.

- 4.11 All archaeological deposits and artefacts encountered during the course of excavation will be fully recorded. Recording will follow standard Northamptonshire procedures. All archaeological deposits will be given individual context numbers and will be described on *pro-forma* context sheets, to include details of the context, its relationships, interpretation and a checklist of associated finds. All potential archaeological features will be excavated, with basal deposits of sectioned features investigated.
- 4.12 The surface of features will be cleaned by hand to enhance their definition and planned at a scale of 1:50. Other significant remains or areas of complex stratigraphy may be planned in greater detail. The trench section and profiles through features will be drawn at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate. All drawing will include levels that will be related to Ordnance Datum.
- 4.13 Artefacts and ecofacts will be collected by hand and retained, receiving appropriate care prior to removal from site (IfA 2001; Walker 1990; Watkinson 1981). Unstratified animal bones and modern material will not be collected. Material that comprises a large quantity of a standard product (eg. brick or tile) will be retained as a sub-sample representing its typical composition.
- 4.14 In the event that human burials are exposed, they will be covered and left *in situ*, and the client and Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Conservation Team informed. They will not be removed at this stage. Recording will account for the location, alignment, burial position and stratigraphic relationships without disturbance and with minimal cleaning necessary to confirm their presence. This work does not constitute costs additional to the evaluation, as it requires no specialist osteological table work.
- 4.15 Soil samples will not be taken unless deposits are encountered that are clearly of an undisturbed, datable, single event context. No samples will be taken where modern intrusion, root disturbance, worm sorting or fungal sclerota are visible. Samples will be from basal silt deposits, avoiding material which may have originated as midden waste. Samples of 40 litres (or 100% of the material if less) will be taken for flotation from dateable contexts with a potential for the recovery of charcoal and carbonised plant remains. The sampling strategy will conform to English Heritage guidelines (EH 2002). Extensive environmental sampling is a financial contingency requiring additional laboratory time and will be selected in consultation with the client and Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Conservation Team during monitoring. If substantial deposits likely to be of environmental interest are encountered advice on the sampling strategy will be sought from Rachel Ballantyne, English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science (East of England).
- 4.16 Photographs will be taken as 35mm monochrome negatives, and colour transparencies in the traditional manner. The photographic record will be compiled into a site archive with appropriate cross-referencing. Digital photographs will supplement the record for reporting purposes.
- 4.17 The excavated area and spoil heaps will be scanned by metal detector to ensure maximum finds retrieval.
- 4.18 Finds coming under the definition of 'treasure' as defined by the Treasure Act 1996 will be reported to the Coroner and dealt with under the procedures of the Treasure Act and Code of Practice. This includes both precious metals and base metals where they are of prehistoric date. Suitable measures will be taken to ensure their security where removal cannot take place (i.e. they are within a human burial).
- 4.19 All records will be compiled during fieldwork into a comprehensive and fully cross-referenced site archive.

5 REPORT AND ARCHIVE

- 5.1 A report will be produced within four weeks of the completion of the trial trenching and will include results from the full scope of evaluation works. In accordance with the Brief (Tipper 2009), it will contain:
- A review of the project objectives.
 - A descriptive account of the archaeological evidence distinguished separately from its interpretation.
 - A discussion and assessment of the archaeological evidence.
 - An opinion on the scope of further work.
 - Specialist reports for all significant finds detailing their potential for further analysis including tabulation of data by context and non-technical summaries.
 - Assessment of any palaeo-environmental samples recovered and a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site.
 - Reference to the known archaeological information held within the Suffolk County HER.
 - A copy of this document as an appendix to the report.
 - The report will be clearly marked with the HER Event Number: CLA061.
- 5.2 An unbound copy of the evaluation report clearly marked DRAFT will be presented for approval to Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Conservation Team within six months of the completion of fieldwork. Bound copies and a digital copy of the final report will be issued to CgMs Consulting Ltd to be distributed accordingly, this will include two hard copies and a PDF digital copy on CD for final submission. Mapinfo tables will also be provided for the Suffolk County HER.
- 5.3 All projects conducted by Northamptonshire Archaeology contain an Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS III) registration form in the front pages of the report. This data is used to keep the online database up to date with the most recent projects conducted by Northamptonshire Archaeology.
- 5.4 A fully integrated archive of the fieldwork results will be compiled in accordance with the guidelines of Appendix 3 of the English Heritage procedural document, *Management of Archaeological Projects* (EH 1991).
- 5.5 The site archive will be available for deposition with Suffolk County HER within three months of completion of the fieldwork. The relevant County HER sheets will be completed. The site archive will be accompanied by the research archive, which will comprise the text, tabulated data, the original drawings and all other records generated in the analysis of the site archive. The archive will be fully catalogued and prepared for deposition (MGC 1992; Walker 1990; SCC 2008).
- 5.6 Every effort will be made to secure the agreement of the landowner for the transfer of finds ownership. Finds will be deposited with a museum in Suffolk which satisfies the requirements of the Museum and Galleries Commission. The material archive will be prepared according to: *The preparation of excavation archives for long term storage* (Walker 1990) and *Suffolk County Council Archive Guidelines* (SCC 2008). It will comprise all written, drawn and photographic records, and all material finds and processed sample residues recovered from the excavation. Any material requiring special curation will be handled under the recognised guidelines (Watkinson 1997).
- 5.7 A microfilm copy of the site archive and narrative will be made to RCHME standards and submitted to the National Archaeological Record.

- 5.8 If the results of the fieldwork produce evidence considered worthy of publication, an appropriate article or note shall be submitted to the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology* for inclusion in their next annual publication.

6 KEY PERSONNEL

- 6.1 Northamptonshire Archaeology is an IfA registered organisation (No.48), under the overall management of **Steve Parry MA FSA MifA, Principal Archaeologist**.
- 6.2 The project will be carried out under the management of **Jim Brown BSc PGDip MifA, Project Officer** (Appendix 1). Other project staff will be appointed as appropriate and may include key staff from the table below:

Table 1: Personnel

Danny McAree	Senior Project Supervisor, Northamptonshire Archaeology Desk-based Assessments
Carol Simmonds	Project Supervisor, Northamptonshire Archaeology Desk-based Assessments
Dora Leigh	Archive Supervisor, Northamptonshire Archaeology
Dr William Boismier	Palaeo-finds specialist, Senior Archaeologist (Operations) Northamptonshire Archaeology
Andy Chapman	Prehistoric finds specialist, Senior Archaeologist (Publications) Northamptonshire Archaeology
Ian Meadows	Coin and Roman finds specialist, Senior Project Officer Northamptonshire Archaeology
Tora Hylton	Roman, medieval and post-medieval finds specialist, Finds Manager Northamptonshire Archaeology
Iain Soden	Medieval and post-medieval finds specialist, Senior Project Officer Northamptonshire Archaeology
Dr Yvonne Wolfram- Murray	Flint specialist, Assistant Project Supervisor Northamptonshire Archaeology
Ed McSloy	Specialist consultant, Iron Age and Roman pottery
Dr Jane Timby	Specialist consultant, Roman pottery
Margaret Darling	Specialist consultant, Roman pottery
Paul Courtney	Specialist consultant, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval pottery
Paul Blinkhorn	Specialist consultant, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval pottery

Pat Chapman	Building materials specialist, Project Supervisor Northamptonshire Archaeology
Karen Deighton	Faunal remains and seed specialist, Environmental Officer Northamptonshire Archaeology
Dr Phillip Armitage	Specialist consultant, Faunal remains
Val Fryer	Specialist consultant, Seeds
Dana Challinor	Specialist consultant, Charcoal
Dr Nick Branch	Specialist consultant, Pollen
Steve Critchley	Specialist consultant, Geologist (retired)
Richard Watts	Illustration Manager, Northamptonshire Archaeology
Adrian Butler	Geophysical Survey Officer, Northamptonshire Archaeology

7 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 7.1 Fieldwork will be conducted in accordance with the Health and Safety Policy of Northamptonshire County Council.
- 7.2 A Risk Assessment has been prepared for the work and will be reviewed and updated as necessary (Appendix 2). All site staff are inducted in the site specific risk assessment and made aware of potential hazards before they commence the works on site.

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SCC 2008 *Suffolk County Council Archive Guidelines*, Suffolk County Council

Walker, K, 1990 *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage*, United Kingdom Institute for Conservation

Watkinson, D, 1987 *First Aid for Finds*, 2nd edition, United Kingdom Institute for Conservation

A1 Jim Brown, Project Officer

Year joined firm	2000
Education	BSc (Hons) Archaeological Science, Cardiff PGDip Cultural Landscape Management, Lampeter
Memberships	Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (MIfA)

Experience

Jim completed a fieldwork scholarship in Kenya, Uganda & Tanzania with the British Institute in East Africa in 1999. Whilst in Africa he worked on several projects as one of five archaeologists directing local labourers. He supervised excavations at the 13th-century mosque city of Gedi, Kilifi District, Kenya and undertook a site survey and post-excavation programme for the Royal Centres at Bigo n Tusi and Mubende on behalf of the National Museum of Uganda in Kampala. Whilst working at the museum Jim was responsible for cataloguing and recording a number of collections that included the entire 10th-13th-century corded-knotware pottery assemblage comprising some 150,000 sherds and a variety of cultural artefacts ranging from domestic utilitarian items to unique and rare examples of masks and jewellery.

Upon returning to the UK he undertook a management course at Lampeter University. He has worked primarily for Northamptonshire Archaeology since leaving full time education in 2000, although he has also worked for the former Cambridge County Council Field Unit and A F Howland Associates Geotechnical Engineers in Suffolk.

Jim has been involved with several major rural landscape projects. Some of the larger projects he has supervised include the Roman settlement at Yaxley in 2005 and an Iron Age settlement at Pineham, Northampton in 2006. Jim has published work on the Roman villa site at Deanshanger, Northamptonshire, which comprised successive geophysical survey, trial excavation and mitigation. Iron Age and Roman excavations at Caerleon, South Wales; Yaxley, Huntingdonshire and Newton Leys, Milton Keynes are forthcoming.

Jim enjoys the archaeology of the medieval and later periods. He has directed work on several urban sites that typically comprised complex stratigraphic and structural archaeology, providing evidence for the origin and development of those towns from the Saxon to the post-medieval periods. Results of excavations at two sites in Northampton, at the Cluniac Priory site in Daventry and at Bury Mount motte and bailey castle in Towcester have been published in the *Northamptonshire Archaeology* journal. His report on the excavations in the medieval core of Great Bowden, Leicestershire is forthcoming.

Jim is well organised and has demonstrated a wide range of office, fieldwork, reporting, desk-based assessment, IT and illustrative skills. Since the beginning of 2005 he has been involved in compiling specifications, project designs and quoting on tenders. He is a former member of the NA geophysics team.

Career history

2006-2009	Project Officer for Northamptonshire Archaeology
2003-2006	Project Supervisor for Northamptonshire Archaeology
2002-2003	Project Assistant for Northamptonshire Archaeology
2001-2002	Site Archaeologist for A.F. Howlands & Associates Geotechnical Engineers, Sudbury Gas Works, Suffolk
2000-2001	Project Assistant for Northamptonshire Archaeology
2000	Site Assistant for Cambridgeshire Archaeological Field Unit
1999-2000	Research Scholarship with the British Institute in East Africa

Additional information:



DRAFT

Project title:
Land adj The Granary, CLARE



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Kettering
Newark
Birmingham
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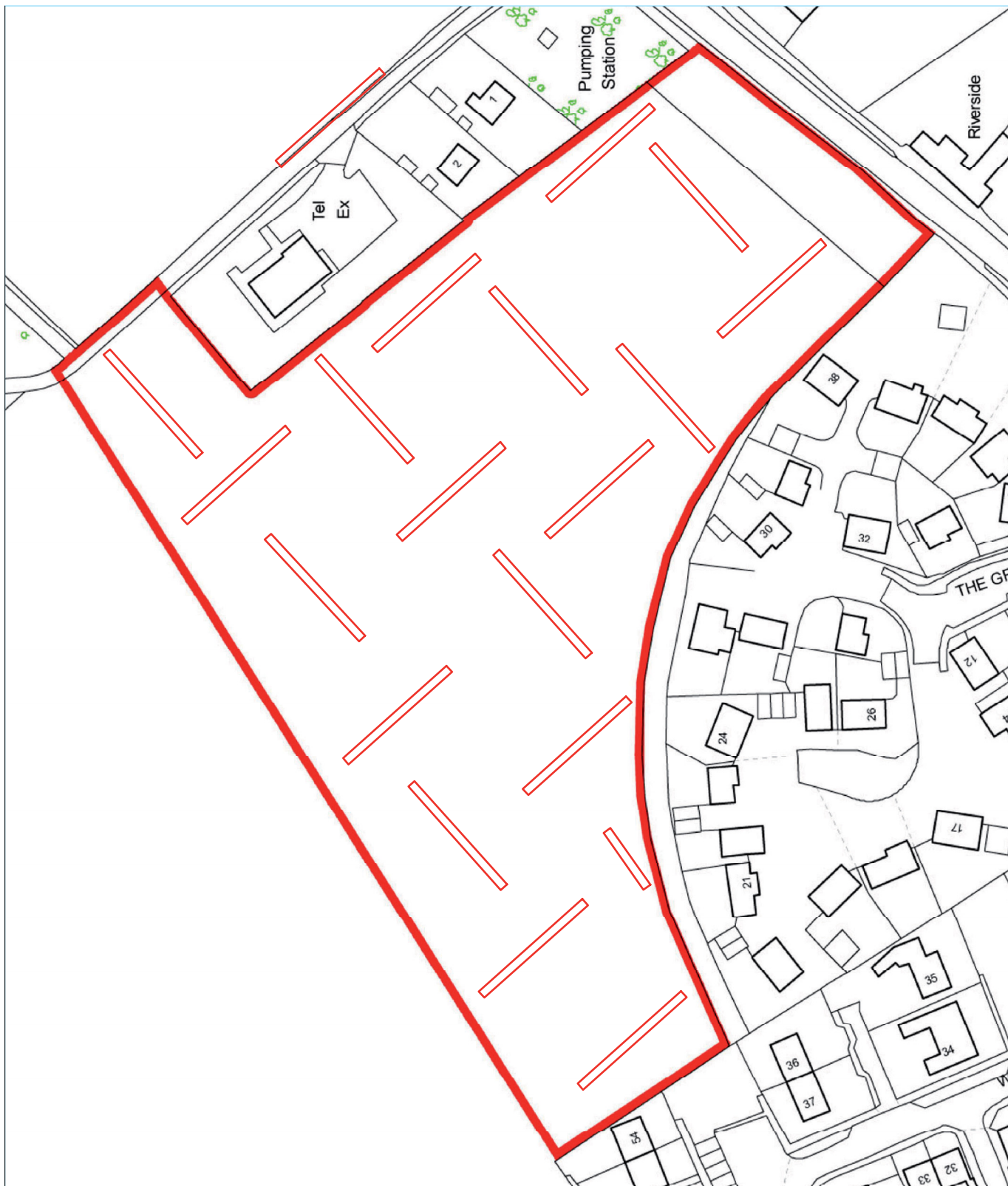
Planning & Development
Archaeology & Historic Buildings

Scale at A4: NTS

Date printed:
25 Sept 2009

Drawn by: MF

Checked by:



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**BRIEF AND SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
LAND EAST OF THE GRANARY, CLARE, SUFFOLK**

**Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service
Conservation team**

Environment and Transport Service Delivery
9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP33 2AR

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Evaluation

LAND EAST OF THE GRANARY, CLARE, SUFFOLK

The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety responsibilities.

1. The nature of the development and archaeological requirements

- 1.1 A planning enquiry has been made for residential development at Land East of the Granary, Clare, Suffolk (TL 765 449). Please contact the developer for an accurate location plan.
- 1.2 The Planning Authority (St Edmundsbury Borough Council) will be advised by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service, Conservation Team that this proposal lies in an area of high archaeological importance. In order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required, prior to consideration of the application, to provide an archaeological impact assessment of the proposed site as suggested in DoE Planning Policy Guidance 16 (November 1990), para 21.
- 1.3 The proposed development area measures c. 2.00ha., overlooking the River Stour. The underlying geology comprises glaciofluvial drift (deep loam) across the majority of the site with chalky till (deep clay) along the northern/north-west part of the site, sloping gently downwards, southwards towards the River, between 45.00 – 50.00m AOD.
- 1.4 This site lies in an area of high archaeological importance, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record, within the valley of the River Stour. An extensive multi-period site is recorded immediately to the north of this area (HER: CLA 018) is recorded immediately to the north and a Roman site is recorded immediately to the west. However, this area has not been the subject of systematic archaeological investigation. There is high potential for important archaeological remains to be defined at this location, given proximity to known remains, the landscape setting (valley-side location), and also the large size of the proposed area.
- 1.5 The following archaeological evaluation work is required:
 - Collation and assessment of historic documentation, including all cartographic sources and air photographic evidence, relevant to the site to identify historic landuse and the siting of old boundaries and which would contribute to the archaeological investigation of the site.
 - A linear trenched evaluation is required of the development area, informed by the results of the documentary survey.
- 1.6 **The results of this evaluation will enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified. Decisions on the suitability of the area for development, and also the need for, and scope of, any further work should there be any archaeological finds of significance, will be based upon the results of the evaluation and will be the subject of an additional specification.**

- 1.7 All arrangements for the field evaluation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated with the commissioning body.
- 1.8 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.
- 1.9 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the WSI as satisfactory. The WSI will provide the basis for measurable standards and will be used to satisfy the requirements of the planning condition.
- 1.10 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination. The developer should be aware that investigative sampling to test for contamination is likely to have an impact on any archaeological deposit which exists; proposals for sampling should be discussed with the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of SCC (SCCAS/CT) before execution.
- 1.11 The responsibility for identifying any constraints on field-work, e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c., ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such constraints or imply that the target area is freely available.
- 1.12 Any changes to the specifications that the project archaeologist may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated directly to SCCAS/CT and the client for approval.

2. Brief for the Archaeological Evaluation

- 2.1 Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.
- 2.2 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.
- 2.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- 2.4 Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- 2.5 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.6 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2), all stages will follow a process of assessment and justification before proceeding to the next phase of the project. Field evaluation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of

potential. Any further excavation required as mitigation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential, analysis and final report preparation may follow. Each stage will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design; this document covers only the evaluation stage.

- 2.7 The developer or his archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT (address as above) five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored.
- 2.8 If the approved evaluation design is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected. Alternatively the presence of an archaeological deposit may be presumed, and untested areas included on this basis when defining the final mitigation strategy.
- 2.9 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

3. Specification: Assessment of Historic Documentation, including Aerial Photographs

- 3.1 Collation and assessment of the County Historic Environment Record to identify known sites and to assess the potential of the application area.
- 3.2 Collation and assessment of all cartographic sources relevant to the site to identify historic landuse, the siting of old boundaries and any earlier buildings. Where possible copies should be included in the report.
- 3.3 Collation and assessment of historic documentation relevant to the site that would contribute to the archaeological investigation of the site.
- 3.4 Re-assessment of aerial photographic evidence and, where relevant, a replotting of archaeological and topographic information by a suitably qualified specialist with relevant experience at a scale of 1:2500. It should be possible to obtain residual errors of less than $\pm 2\text{m}$. Rectification of extant mapped features such as field boundaries and buildings shall be undertaken in order to give additional indication of accuracy of the transcription.
- 3.5 Examination of available geotechnical information to assess the condition and status of buried deposits and to identify local geological conditions. Relevant geotechnical data should be included as appendices to the report.

4. Specification: Trenched Evaluation

- 4.1 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover 5% by area, which is c. 1000.00m². These shall be positioned to sample all parts of the site. Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.80m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated; this will result in a minimum of 556.00m of trenching at 1.80m in width.
- 4.2 If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' at least 1.80m wide must be used. A scale plan showing the proposed locations of the trial trenches should be included in the WSI and the detailed trench design must be approved by SCCAS/CT before field work begins.
- 4.3 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine with a back-acting arm and fitted with a toothless bucket, down to the interface layer between topsoil and subsoil or other visible archaeological surface. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.

- 4.4 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.
- 4.5 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation; that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled. For guidance:
- For linear features, 1.00m wide slots (min.) should be excavated across their width;
- For discrete features, such as pits, 50% of their fills should be sampled (in some instances 100% may be requested).
- 4.6 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.
- 4.7 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. The contractor shall show what provision has been made for environmental assessment of the site and must provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from Rachel Ballantyne, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.
- 4.8 Any natural subsoil surface revealed should be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Sample excavation of any archaeological features revealed may be necessary in order to gauge their date and character.
- 4.9 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.
- 4.10 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed SCCAS/CT during the course of the evaluation).
- 4.11 Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. However, the excavator should be aware of, and comply with, the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.
- 4.12 Plans of any archaeological features on the site are to be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum. Any variations from this must be agreed with SCCAS/CT.
- 4.13 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies and/or high resolution digital images.
- 4.14 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.

- 4.15 Trenches should not be backfilled without the approval of SCCAS/CT.

5. General Management

- 5.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by SCCAS/CT. The archaeological contractor will give not less than five days written notice of the commencement of the work so that arrangements for monitoring the project can be made.
- 5.2 The composition of the archaeology contractor staff must be detailed and agreed by this office, including any subcontractors/specialists. For the site director and other staff likely to have a major responsibility for the post-excavation processing of this evaluation there must also be a statement of their responsibilities or a CV for post-excavation work on other archaeological sites and publication record. Ceramic specialists, in particular, must have relevant experience from this region, including knowledge of local ceramic sequences.
- 5.3 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are available to fulfill the Brief.
- 5.4 A detailed risk assessment must be provided for this particular site.
- 5.5 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 5.6 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

6. Report Requirements

- 6.1 An archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1).
- 6.2 The report should reflect the aims of the WSI.
- 6.3 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 6.4 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given. No further site work should be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established.
- 6.5 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.
- 6.6 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including an assessment of palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 6.7 The results of the surveys should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the County Historic Environment Record (HER).

- 6.8 A copy of the Specification should be included as an appendix to the report.
- 6.9 The project manager must consult the County HER Officer (Dr Colin Pendleton) to obtain an HER number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.
- 6.10 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*.
- 6.11 The project manager should consult the SCC Archive Guidelines 2008 and also the County HER Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive.
- 6.12 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure the proper deposition (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>).
- 6.13 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner/developer to the deposition of the finds with the County HER or a museum in Suffolk which satisfies Museum and Galleries Commission requirements, as an indissoluble part of the full site archive. If this is not achievable for all or parts of the finds archive then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate. If the County HER is the repository for finds there will be a charge made for storage, and it is presumed that this will also be true for storage of the archive in a museum.
- 6.14 The site archive is to be deposited with the County HER within three months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 6.15 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project (whether it be evaluation or excavation) a summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology*, must be prepared. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 6.16 County HER sheets must be completed, as per the County HER manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 6.17 An unbound copy of the evaluation report, clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and SCCAS/CT.
- Following acceptance, two copies of the report should be submitted to SCCAS/CT together with a digital .pdf version.
- 6.18 Where appropriate, a digital vector trench plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the County HER. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.
- 6.19 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 6.20 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the County HER. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

Specification by: Dr Jess Tipper

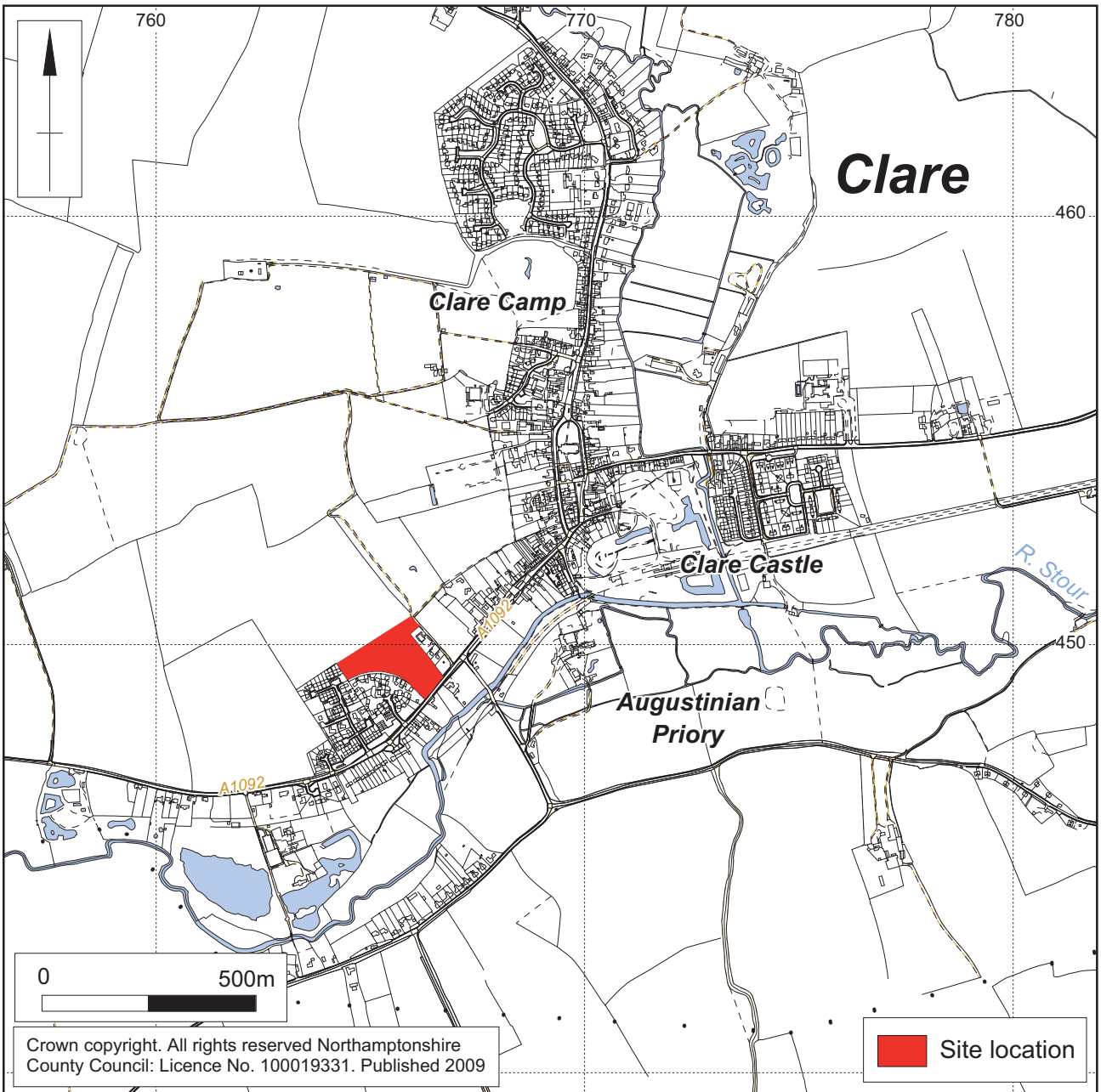
Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service Conservation Team
Environment and Transport Service Delivery
9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk IP33 2AR
Tel: 01284 352197
Email: jess.tipper@suffolk.gov.uk

Date: 4 August 2009

Reference: / TheGranary-Clare2009

This brief and specification remains valid for six months from the above date. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the authority should be notified and a revised brief and specification may be issued.

If the work defined by this brief forms a part of a programme of archaeological work required by a Planning Condition, the results must be considered by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council, who have the responsibility for advising the appropriate Planning Authority.



Scale 1:15,000

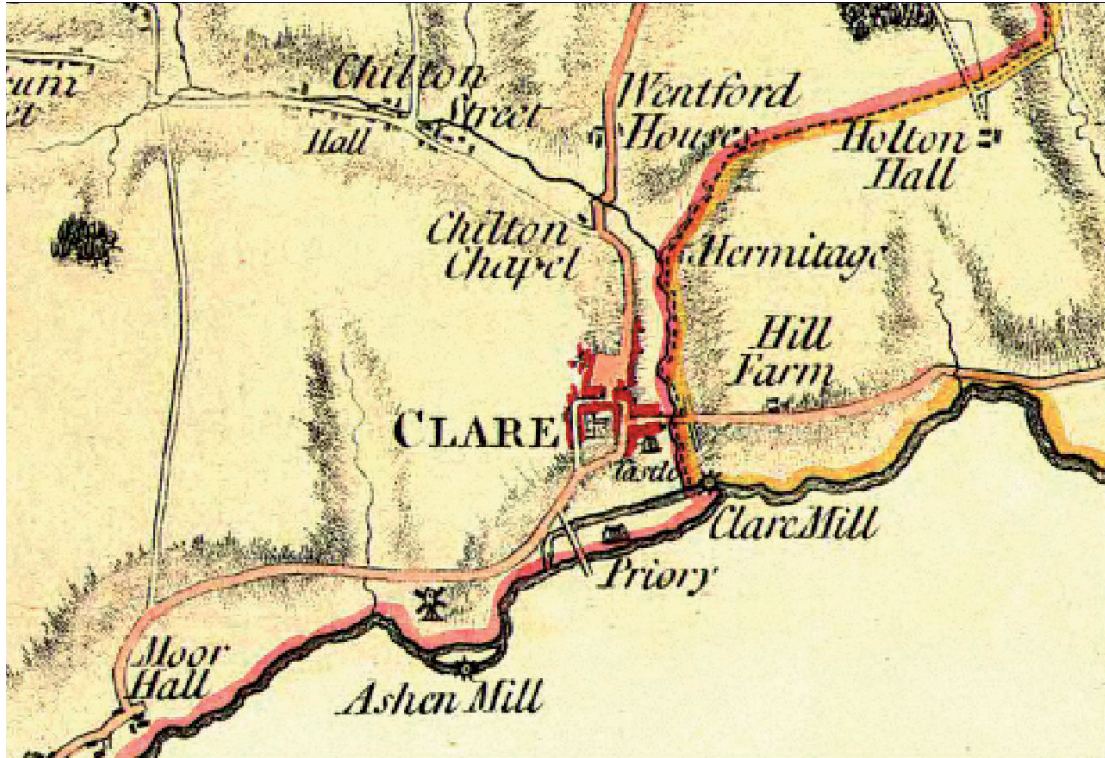
Site location Fig 1



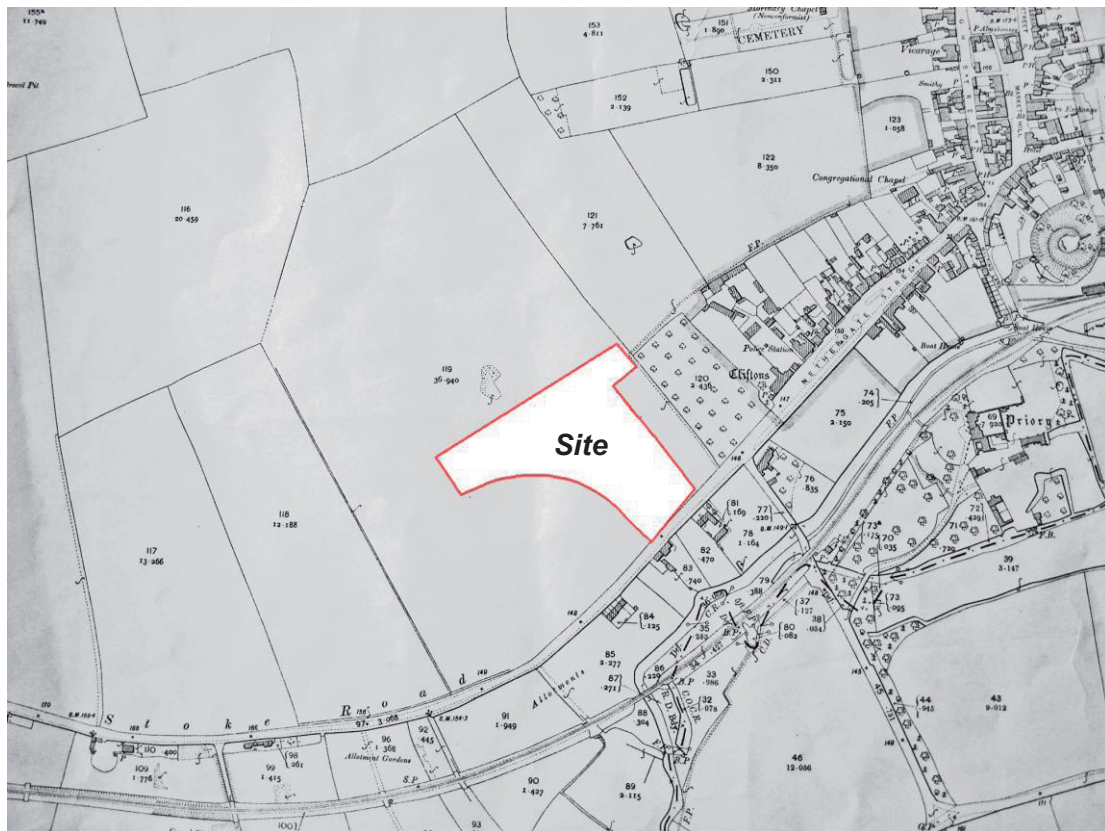
Site area
 HER areas
● and points

0 500m
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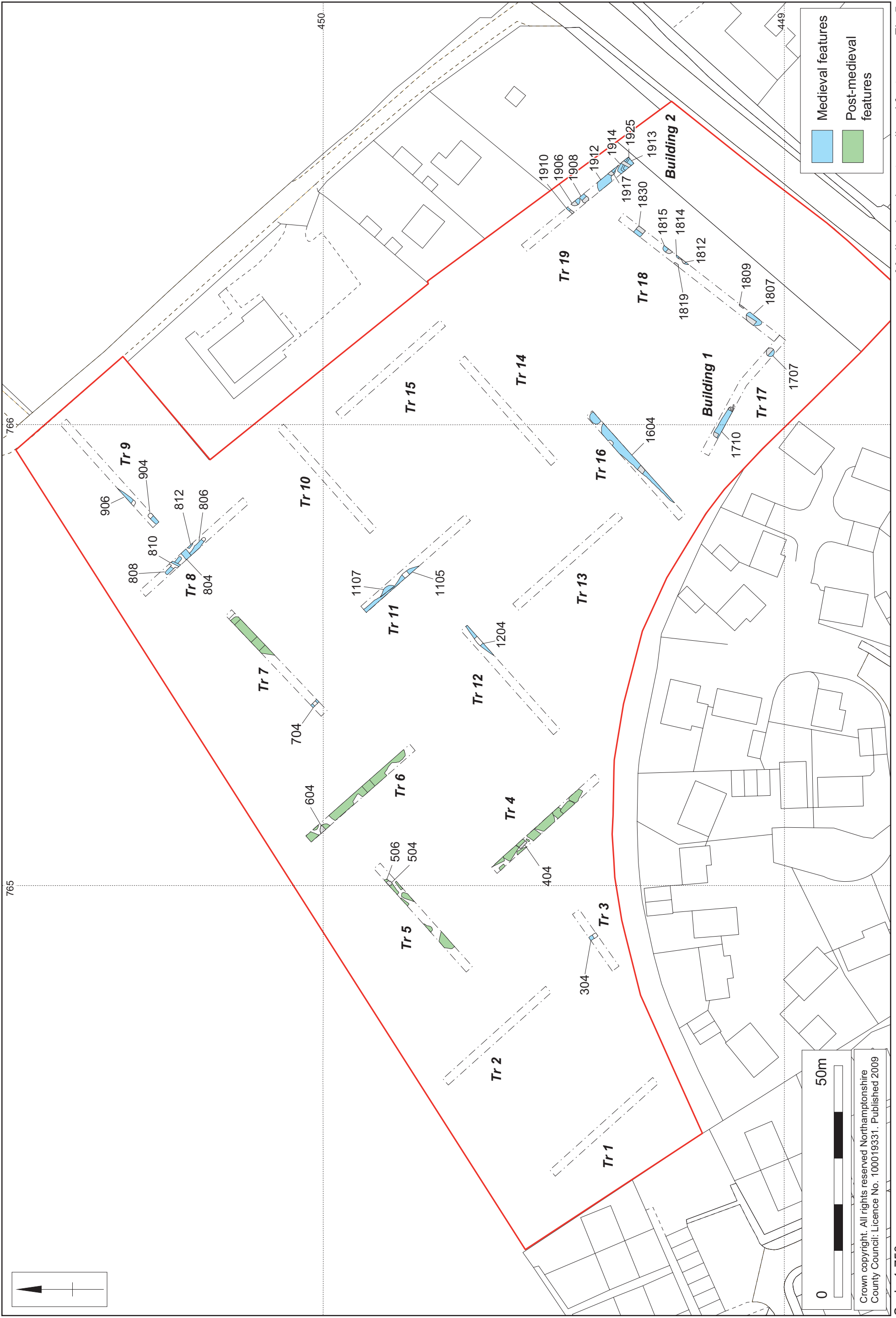
Scale 1:7,500 Historic Environment Record (HER) data Fig 2



Hodskinsons map of Suffolk, 1783 Fig 3



2nd edition Ordnance Survey, 1904 Fig 4

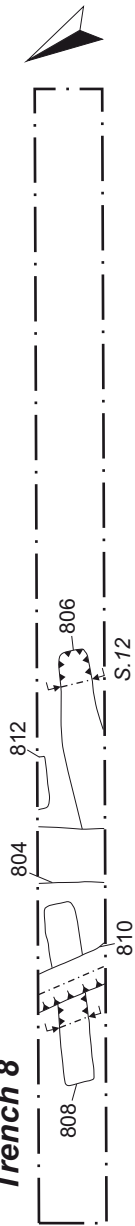


Medieval and post-medieval features Fig 5

Scale 1:750

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Trench 8



Trench 9



Trench 11



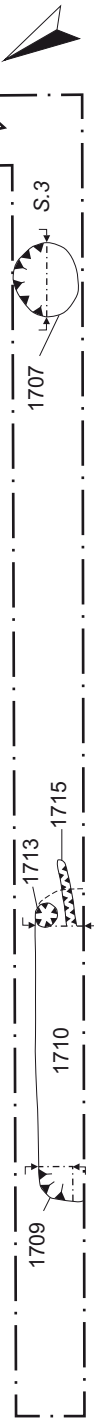
Trench 12



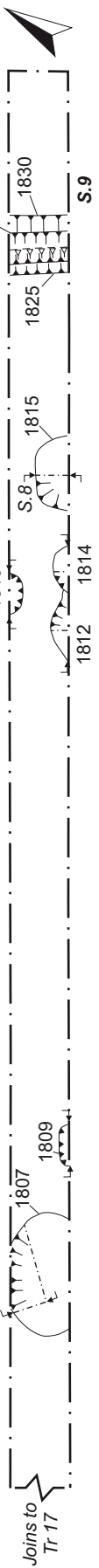
Trench 16



Trench 17



Trench 18



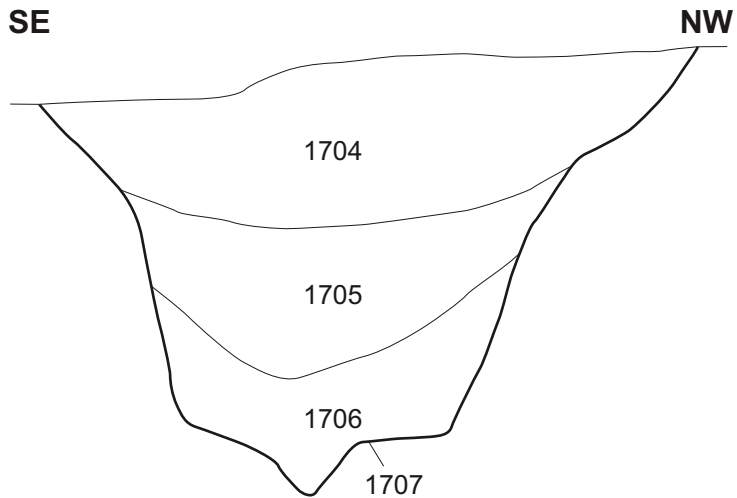
Trench 19



Trench plans Fig 6

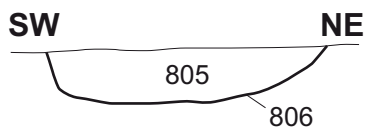
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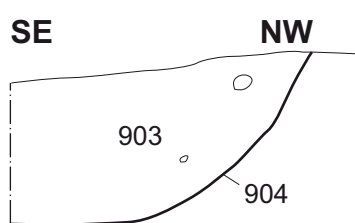
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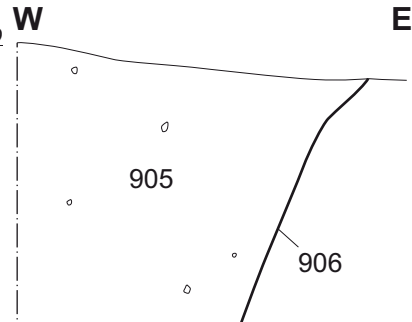
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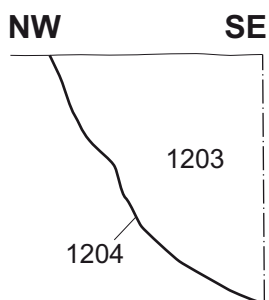
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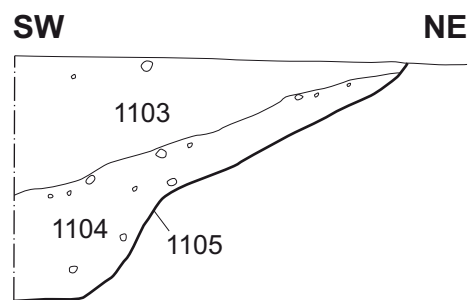
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50.00mOD



Section 11

50.00mOD

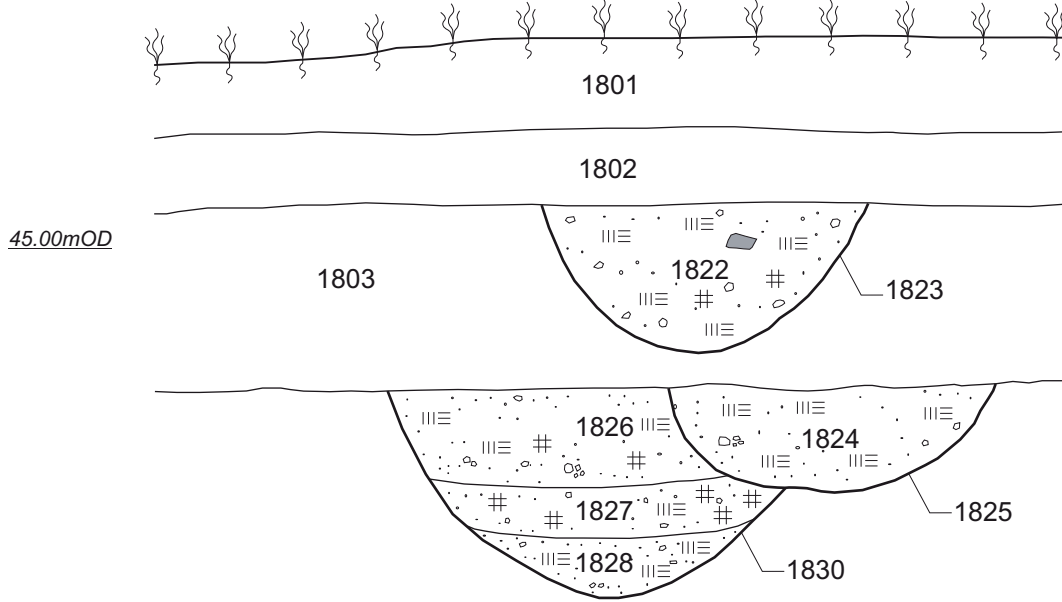


Archaeological sections Fig 7

Section 9

NE

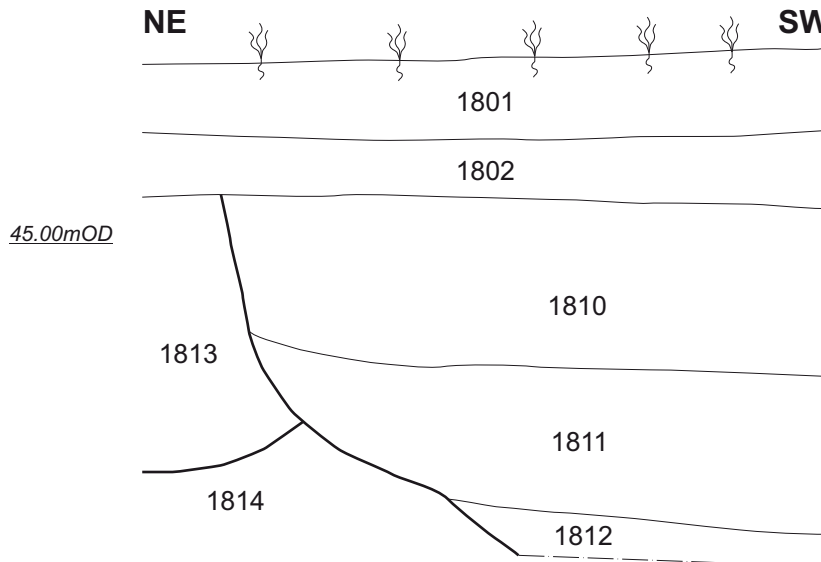
SW



Section 7

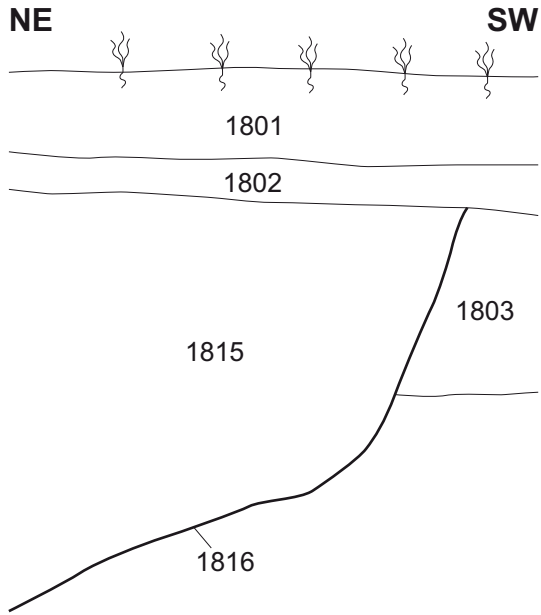
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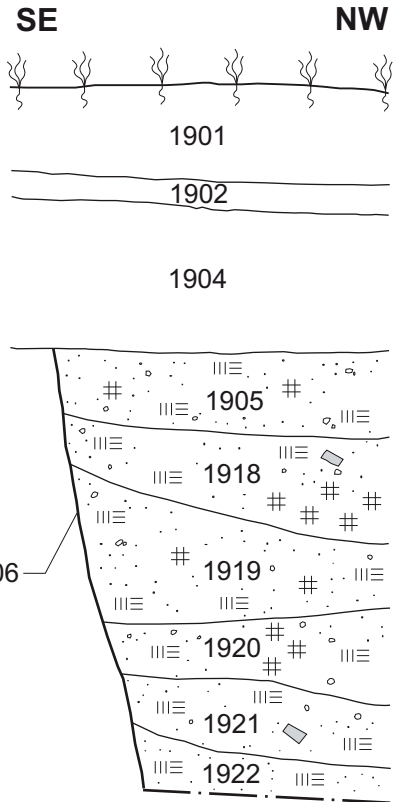


Archaeological sections Fig 8

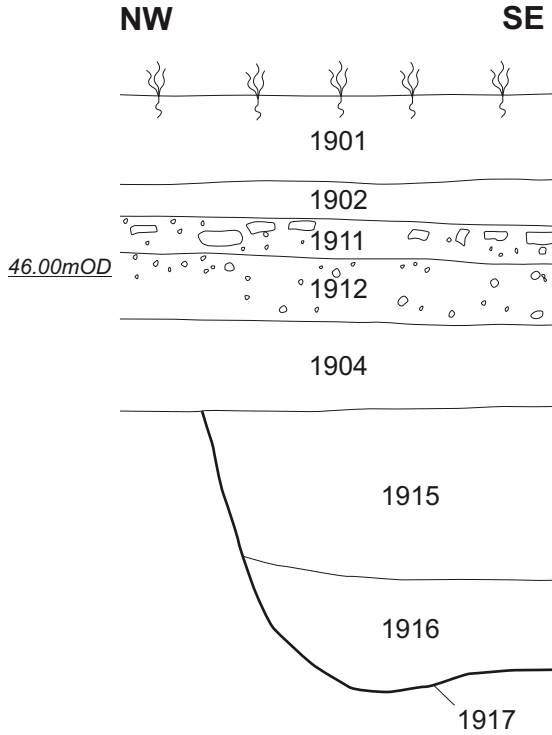
Section 8



Section 16



Section 18



Archaeological sections Fig 9



Pit [1707], Trench 17 Fig 10



Ditches [1830] and [1825], layer (1803) and ditch [1823], Trench 18 Fig 11



Building 2, clay floor (1913), gully [1925] and robbing, Trench 19 Fig 12



Quarry pits, Trench 5 in the rain Fig 13



Northamptonshire County Council

Northamptonshire Archaeology



Northamptonshire Archaeology

2 Bolton House
Wootton Hall Park

Northampton NN4 8BE

t. 01604 700493 f. 01604 702822

e. sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk

w. www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk



Northamptonshire
County Council