

Archaeological evaluation at Brantham Place (Phase 1), Church Lane, Brantham, Suffolk, CO11 1QA

June 2021



Interim Report by Sarah Veasey

with contributions by Dr Matthew Loughton
figures by Ben Holloway, Sarah Veasey and Emma Holloway

fieldwork by Ben Holloway with Matthew Perou, Nicholas Pryke, Alexander Smith and
Bronagh Quinn

commissioned by: Sophie Gittins
client: Granville Developments

NGR: TM 1104 3416
Planning ref: DC/18/05177/FUL
CAT project ref.: 2020/08i
Suffolk Parish Number: BNT 101
OASIS ref: colchest3-406586



Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785

email: sv@catuk.org

CAT Report 1688

July 2021

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1 Summary

Phase 1 of an archaeological evaluation (sixteen trenches) was carried out at Brantham Place, Church Lane, Brantham, Suffolk, in advance of the construction of fifteen new dwellings and the conversion of an existing dwelling. The site is located within the vicinity of four listed buildings and two historic farmsteads. Despite the location of the site the only features uncovered were one pit and seven tree-throws. Three natural features were also excavated.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This interim report presents the results phase 1 of an archaeological evaluation on land at Brantham Place, Church Lane, Brantham, Suffolk which was carried out on 7th-9th June 2021. The work was commissioned by Sophie Gittins on behalf of Granville Developments in advance of the erection of fifteen new dwellings and the conversion of an existing dwelling with associated infrastructure, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

The Local Planning Authority (Mid Suffolk District Council: Planning reference DC/18/05177/FUL) was advised by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (SCCAS) that this site lies in an area of high archaeological importance, and that, in order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* detailing the required archaeological work written by Matthew Baker (SCCAS 2020b), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT (2021) in response to the SCCAS brief and agreed with SCCAS.

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2016), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14 and 24). This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b), as well as the *SCCAS Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* (SCCAS 2020a).

3 Archaeological and landscape background (Fig 2)

The following archaeological background draws on information from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk), SCC invoice number 9501696.

Geology

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale¹) shows the bedrock geology of the site as Red Crag Formation (sand) with superficial deposits of Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup (sand and gravel).

Historic landscape

The Brantham area is defined as *plateau farmlands* in the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment². Within the Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map³ it is defined as Landscape sub-type 10.3 built up area – village. The landscape immediately around Brantham is characterised as sub-type 3.4 (post 1950 agricultural landscape – boundary loss from irregular co-axial fields), sub-type 5.1 (meadow or managed wetland – meadow) and 1.1 (pre 18th-century enclosure – random fields). The site is situated on a south facing slope which is topographically favourable for early occupation, over a valley leading into Seafeld Bay.

¹ British Geological Survey – <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?>

² <http://www.suffolklandscape.org.uk/>

³ The Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map, version 3, 2008, Suffolk County Council

Archaeology⁴ (Fig 2)

(All measurements are taken from the centre point of the development site to the centre point of the archaeological site). The background is focused on results within a 1km radius of the site.

Prehistoric: There is a concentration of prehistoric activity around Brantham Hall and Marsh Farm (BNT 004) c 924m southeast of the site. Gravel extraction work in the area has revealed a Palaeolithic axe, a later Bronze Age Deverell Rimbury bucket urn cemetery, a ring ditch with beaker pottery and an Iron Age pit dwelling/hut.

Other prehistoric evidence within the search area have included a number of find spots: an early neolithic arrowhead (BNT 031, 544m NW), a Neolithic axe (BNT 005, 433m SW); a scatter of Iron Age pottery (BNT 016570m SSW).

A couple of areas of undated cropmarks recorded by aerial photography are interpreted as possibly prehistoric (or Roman) in date. These include possible field boundaries and trackways (BNT 017, 607m NW) and ditched trackway and field boundaries (BNT 021, 810m NNE).

Roman: Roman evidence within the search area include sherds of two cinerary urns found at The Gables (BNT 006, 657m SW).

Anglo-Saxon-medieval: Brantham's name is thought to derive from the Anglo-Saxon for 'village on the hill' but another translation 'burnt home' because of regular Viking raiding of the old settlement. The village is well established by 1086 as the Domesday book lists 38 households in Brantham.

The Augustinian Dodnash Priory provides documentary evidence within its charters for a small castle (castello) of Hamo Petit (809m SW BNT 080) and a salhouse (509m SW BNT 081), both dating to the early 13th century AD.

Approximately 198m ENE lies the Historic England Grade II Church of St Michael the Archangel (BNT 023/DSF2887). The oldest sections of the existing church date to the 14th century with extensive rebuilding and restorations in c 1800 and c 1869. It is likely that an earlier church, possibly wooden, would have been situated within the same area.

Brantham Hall (BNT 093\DSF2888, 974 ESE) is a timber-framed Historic England Grade II Listed farmstead dating to the 15th century or earlier, with later alterations. The Farmstead is visible on early mapping and included a rectangular moat (BNT 022).

Several finds have been found within the search area for these periods. These include an Anglo-Saxon brooch (BNT 086, 790m SW) and a medieval medallion or badge (BNT 012, 763m NE).

An archaeological evaluation on land off Factory Lane revealed a large shallow hollow with finds dating to the late 13th to mid 14th centuries and a post-medieval boundary (BNT 069, Wroe-Brown 2014).

Post-medieval-modern: Monuments attributed to this period include cropmarks recorded through aerial photography c 947m southeast of the site reveal multi-period trackways and historic field boundaries (BNT 015). The decoy, a dunbird or pochard pond with three decoy pipes, damaged by construction of railway line (BNT 018, 787m S).

During a project to record the farmsteads of Suffolk (Campbell & McSorley 2019) a number of historic farmsteads were noted on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map within the search area. These include: Church House (BNT 091, within the site boundary), Church Farm (BNT 090, 165m NNE), Marsh Farm (BNT 094, 960m SE), Palfry Farm (BNT 097, 1km SSW) and Decoypond House (BNT 098, 960m S).

⁴

This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

The Ipswich to Colchester railway line opened in 1846 (SUF 068, 737m W).

Undated: Undated monuments include cropmarks of groups of inter-related curvilinear ditches (BNT 019 954m WNW) and a sub-circular of double ditched enclosure and lines of discontinuous ditches (BNT 072 623m SSE).

An evaluation on land north of Windyridge, Brantham Hill revealed two shallow ditches with no dating evidence (ESF25480, Newman 2017).

Negative: Previous archaeological investigations with undatable or negative results include: a watching brief at Brooklands Primary School and two evaluations at Palfry Heights which revealed evidence of possible quarrying (ESF18741, Newman 2001, BNT 068 ESF22272, Newman 1998 and ESF24772, Newman 1999); monitoring at Kettles, Rectory Lane (ESF20245, Cass 2009), test pits at St Michael's church (ESF23202, Pooley 2016) and monitoring at The Kennels, Church Lane (ESF22232, Payne 2013) revealed no archaeological features or finds.

Find spots

Within the search area a few artefacts have been found and recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme that include late prehistoric lithics, a Bronze Age spearhead, Roman brooches, coins and horse fittings, an Anglo-Saxon fitting, medieval metalwork and pottery and post-medieval tokens and seals.

Listed buildings⁵ (Fig 3)

There are 4 Historic England listed buildings within 1km of the development site. They are all Grade II listed and date from the 14th to 19th century. Buildings not mentioned above include and The Thatched Cottage dated to c 17th to 18th century (DSF2524, 813m SW) and the post-medieval/modern Lynchgate, built c 1897 in Arts & Crafts style (DSF1378, 178m ENE).

4 Aims

The aims of the evaluation were to:

- excavate and record any archaeological deposits that were identified within the evaluation trenches.
- identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the evaluation trenches, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.

5 Methodology

As per the brief, 5% of the development site will be sampled (472m of linear trenching at 1.8m wide, covering an area of 850m²). Twenty-three trenches 20m long (T1-T2 & T4-T24) and one trench 12m (T3) long are proposed, located in a linear grid pattern across the development area (see Fig 2), some trenches are rotated slightly to avoid obstacles such as trees.

This evaluation will be carried out in two phases. Phase 1, covered in this report, consisted of 16 out of 24 trenches. This interim report will be updated to include the results of Phase 2 once the remaining trenching has been carried out.

The trenches were mechanically excavated under the supervision of a CAT archaeologist, and all archaeological horizons were excavated and recorded according to the WSI. There was sufficient excavation to give evidence for the period, depth and nature of all archaeological deposits. For linear features, 1m wide sections were excavated across their width to a total of

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This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

10% of the overall length. Discrete features, such as pits, were 50% excavated. There were no complex archaeological structures.

Individual records of excavated features and layers were entered on pro-forma record sheets with registers compiled of finds. The evaluation trenches and features were surveyed by GPS with sections drawn by hand at 1:10. All trenches and features were digitally photographed with a scale and north arrow. A metal detector was used to check trenches, spoil heaps and excavated strata.

6 Results (Figs 3-4)

Fourteen trenches (T1-T13, T15) were stripped through modern topsoil (L1, c 0.15-0.36m thick) and a layer of subsoil (L2, c 0.15-0.47m thick) onto natural sand (L3, encountered c 0.44-0.86m below current ground level [bcgl]). Sondages were excavated in T1, T5, T8, T9 and T11 to confirm the identification of L3 as natural.

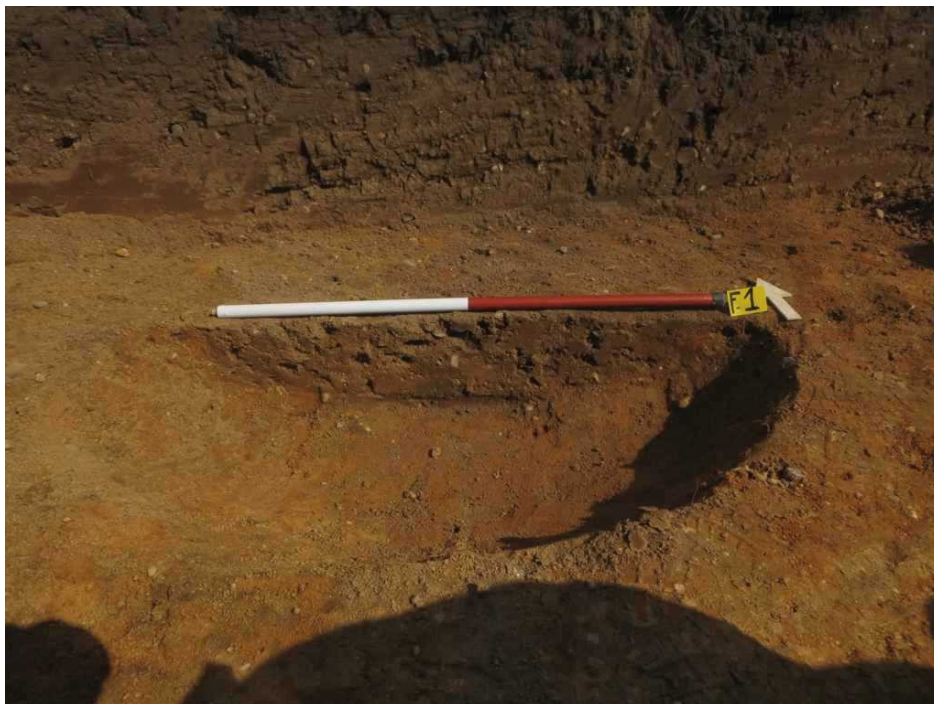
Archaeological features were rare with pit F7 (0.65m by 0.70m and 0.23m deep) excavated in T12. A further seven tree-throws were present in trenches T3 (F2), T4 (F8), T5 (F1), T8 (F9), T12 (F3) and T15 (F10 & F11), with three natural features investigated in T1 (F4) and T13 (F5 & F6). The tree-throws ranged from 0.93m by 1.29m and 0.37m deep to 3.83m by 4.21m and 0.44m, with F1 producing a fragment of roofing slate, F9 a piece of peg-tile and F11 a piece of baked clay.

Trenches T17 and T20 were cut through L1 (c 0.10-0.14m thick) and a layer of colluvium (L4, c 0.47-0.63m thick) onto natural L3 (identified at a depth of 0.42-0.45m bcgl), and sondages were excavated in both trenches to confirm the identification of L3 as natural. There were no features in either trench.

A full context list can be found in Appendix 1.



Photograph 1 T13 trench shot – looking south-west



Photograph 2 F1 sx – looking north-north-east



Photograph 3 F7 sx – looking south-west



Photograph 4 T15 trench shot – looking south-south-west

7 Finds

By Dr Matthew Loughton

Ceramic and pottery finds

The evaluation uncovered a small assemblage of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) with five sherds with a weight of 64g (Table 1).

Ceramic material	No.	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	Rim EVE
Pottery	3	9	3	0.00
CBM	2	55	28	-
All	5	64	13	0.00

Table 1 Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery

The topsoil L1 (finds no. 4) contained three sherds (9g) of residual early medieval ware flinty (EMWFL) dating to the 11th-12th century (<https://heritage.suffolk.gov.uk/pottery-type-series>). One sherd of medieval/post-medieval peg-tile with a weight of 5g came from tree-throw F9, while a sherd of baked clay (4g) was recovered from the tree-throw F11.

Stone building material

There was one piece (3g) of roofing slate which came from tree-throw F1.

8 Conclusion

Despite being located in an area of archaeological potential, no archaeologically-significant remains or materials were encountered, and there is every possibility that pit F7 is also actually a tree-throw. The development site is currently abundant with trees and large shrubs so the presence of a number of tree-throws is not surprising. It is uncertain if these tree-throws represent a distinct phase of tree-clearance to create the current open spaces around the site, or if they represent a longer period of management. As only recorded in trenches T17 and T20, the layer of colluvium appears to be confined to the southwest corner of the development site, but excavation of the remaining trenches will determine if it is also present further to the east.

9 Acknowledgements

CAT is grateful to Sophie Gittins and Granville Developments for commissioning and funding the project. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by B Holloway with M Perou, N Pryke, A Smith and B Quinn. Figures are by B Holloway, S Veasey and E Holloway. The project was monitored by Matthew Baker for Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services.

10 References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in .pdf format at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

- | | | |
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11 Abbreviations and glossary

Anglo-Saxon	period from c 500 – 1066
Bronze Age	period from c 2500 – 700 BC
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Cifa	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain, can contain 'contexts'
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
Iron Age (Early)	Early Iron Age, period from c 600 – 400BC
Iron Age (Middle)	Middle Iron Age, period from c 400 – 100BC
Iron Age (Late)	Late Iron Age (LIA), period from c 100 – 50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43

layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
Neolithic	period from c 4000 – 2500 BC
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
SCC	Suffolk County Council
SCCAS	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services
SCHER	Suffolk County Historic Environment Record
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
ws	written scheme of investigation

12 Contents of archive

Finds: part of one box

Paper and digital record

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1688)

SCCAS evaluation brief

Original site record (trench record sheets, sections)

Site digital photographic log

Digital record

The report (CAT Report 1688)

SCCAS evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Site digital photographs, thumbnails and log

Graphic files

Site data

Survey data

13 Archive deposition

The archive is currently held by CAT at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, but will be permanently deposited with SCCAS under Parish Number BNT 101. The archive will be deposited in line with SCCAS guidance (SCCAS 2019).

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Distribution list:

Sophie Gittins, Granville Developments

Matthew Baker, SCCAS

Suffolk County Historic Environment Record



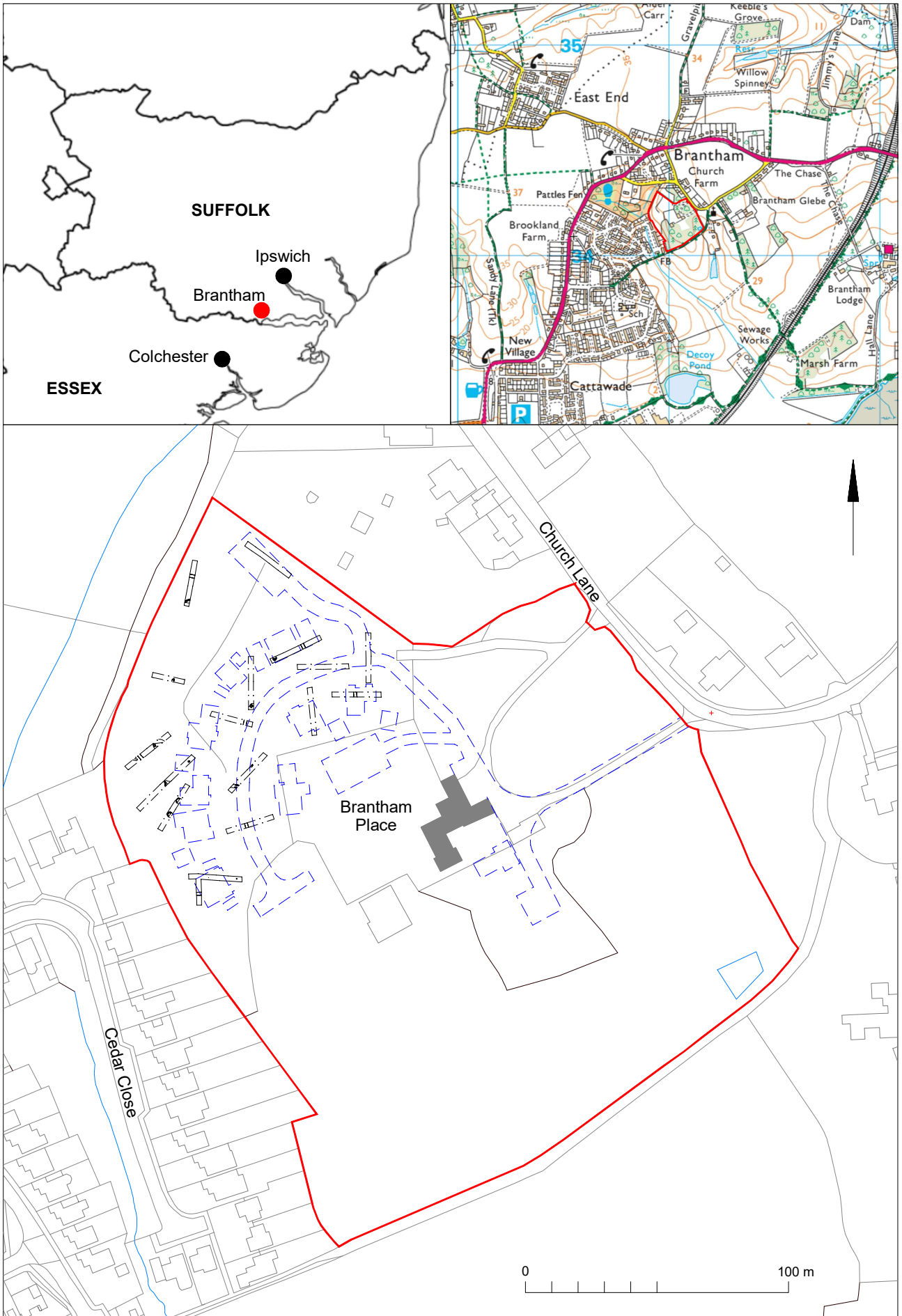
Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ
tel.: 01206 501785
email: sv@catuk.org

checked by: Philip Crummy
date: 13/07/2021

Appendix 1 Context list

Context	Trench	Finds No.	Context type	Description	Date
L1	All	4	Topsoil	soft moist dark grey/brown silty sand and inclusions of: gravel 3%	Modern
L2	All	-	Subsoil	soft moist medium grey/brown silty sand and inclusions of: gravel 4%	Post-glacial
L3	All	-	Natural	soft dry/moist medium yellow/orange silty sand and inclusions of: gravel 10%	Post-glacial
L4	T13, T17, T20	-	Colluvium	firm moist medium grey sandy silt	Post-glacial
F1	5	1	Tree-throw	soft dry/moist light/medium grey/brown silty sand and inclusions of: gravel 5%	Modern
F2	3	-	Tree-throw	loose dry/moist light grey/brown sand with charcoal flecks	Undated
F3	12	-	Tree-throw	firm dry light/medium orange/brown sandy silt	Undated
F4	1	-	Natural feature	firm moist medium grey/brown sand	Post-glacial
F5	13	-	Natural feature	soft moist medium brown silty sand	Post-glacial
F6	13	-	Natural feature	soft moist medium orange/brown silty sand	Post-glacial
F7	12	-	Pit	firm moist light grey/brown sandy silt	Undated
F8	4	-	Tree-throw	firm dry light/medium orange/brown sandy silt	Undated
F9	8	3	Tree-throw	soft moist medium orange/brown silty sand	Medieval/post-medieval
F10	15	-	Tree-throw	soft dry medium brown silty sand	Undated
F11	15	2	Tree-throw	soft dry medium brown silty sand	Undated



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Fig 1 Site location.



Fig 2 Development site (in red) shown in relation to archaeological and historic sites recorded on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record.

Imagery ©2020 CNES/Airbus, Getmapping PLC, Infoterra Ltd & Bluesky, Maxar Technologies, Map data © 2020
HER data © Suffolk Historic Environment Record

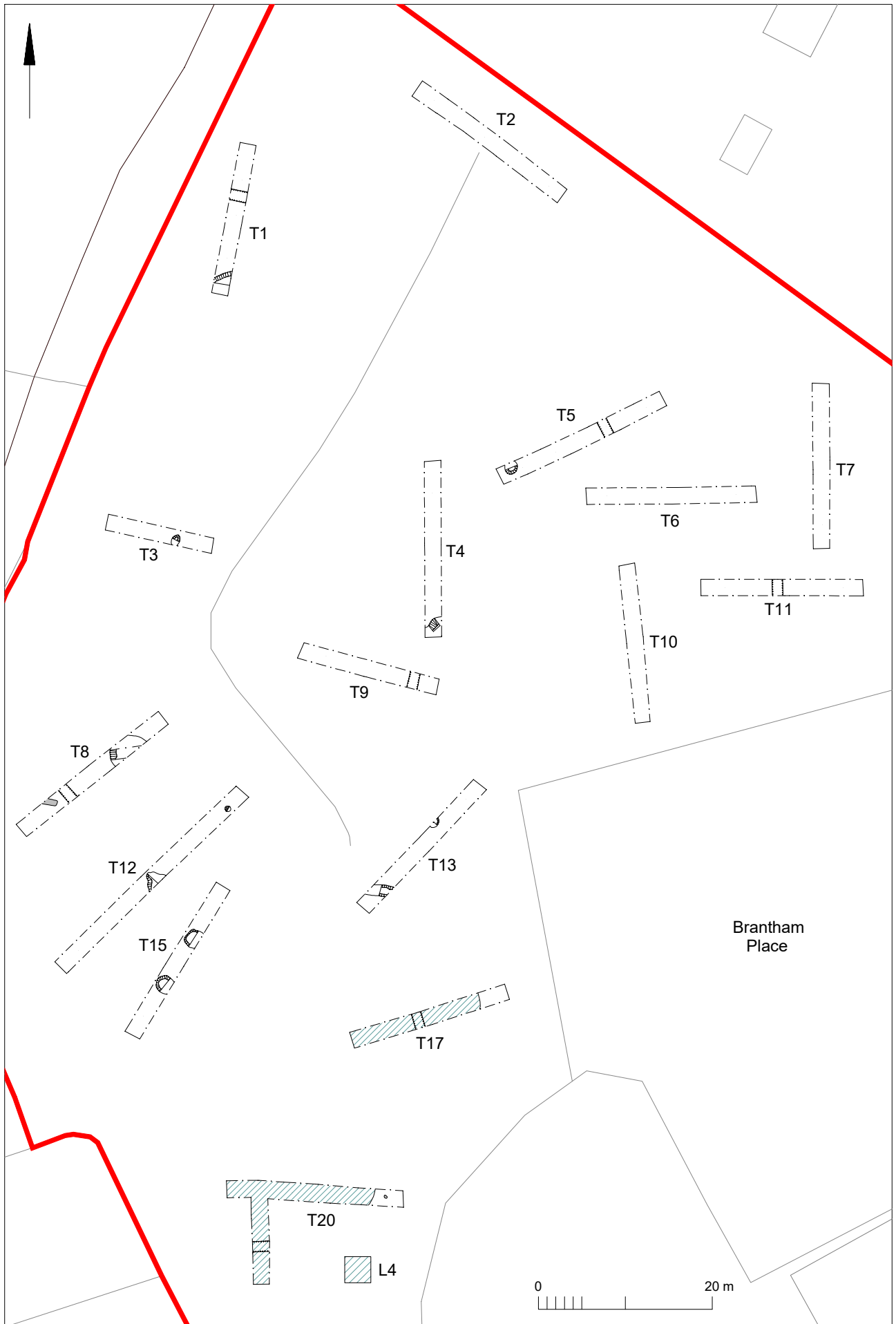


Fig 3 Phase 1 trenching results.

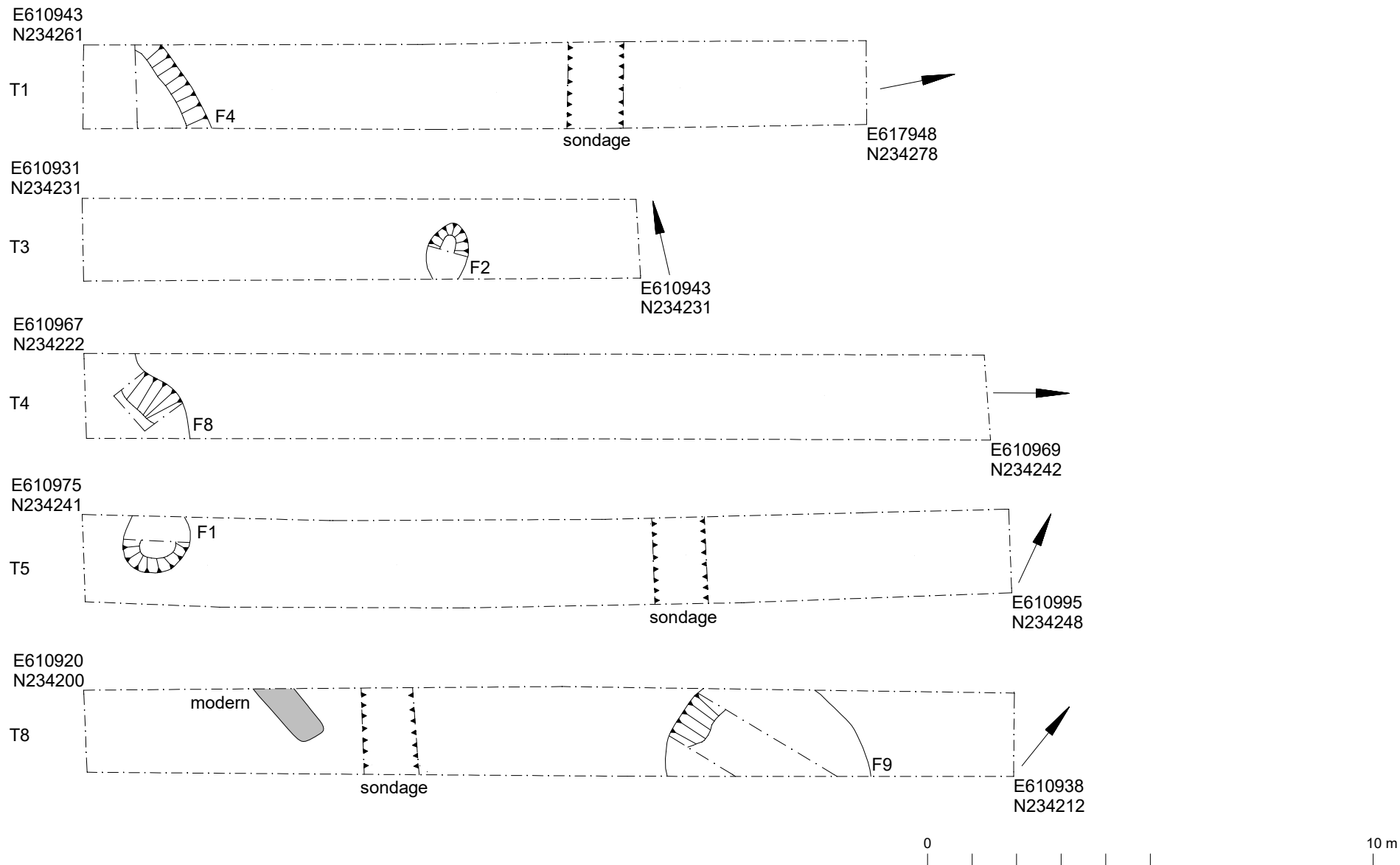


Fig 4 Detailed trench plans.

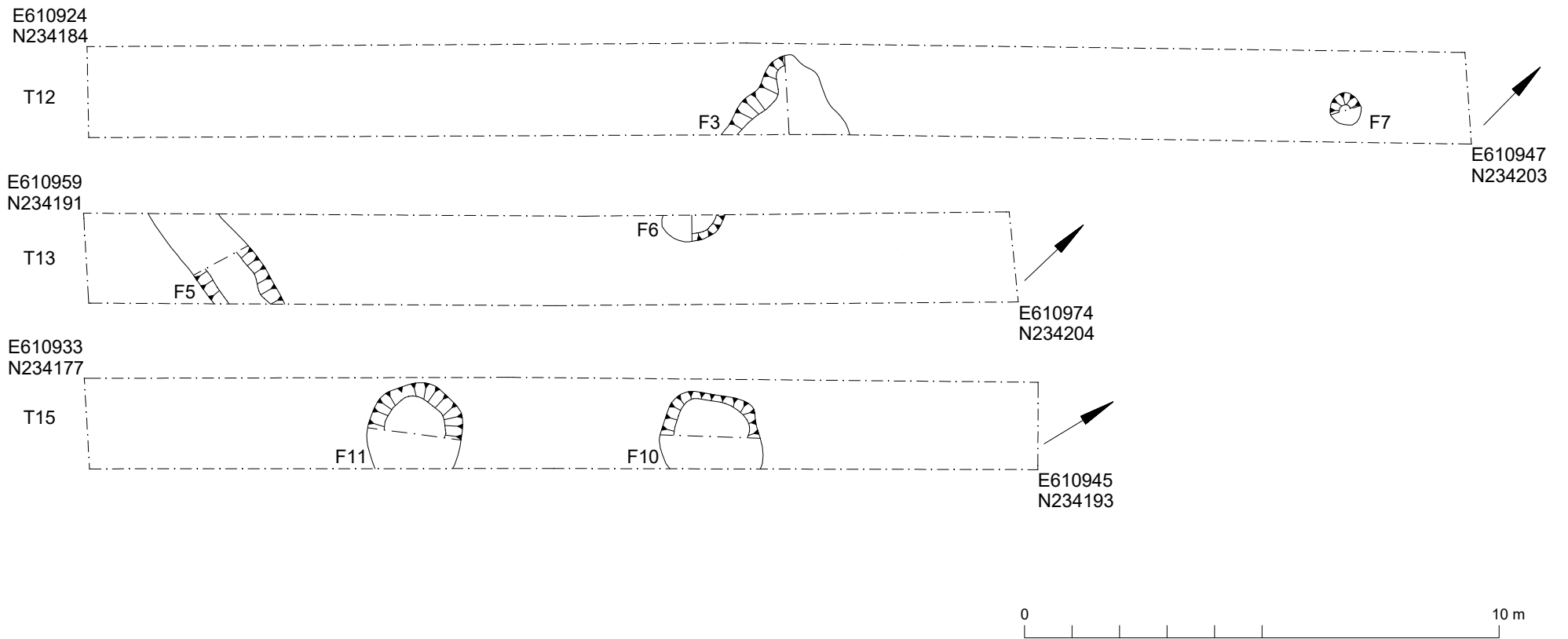


Fig 6 Detail trench plans.

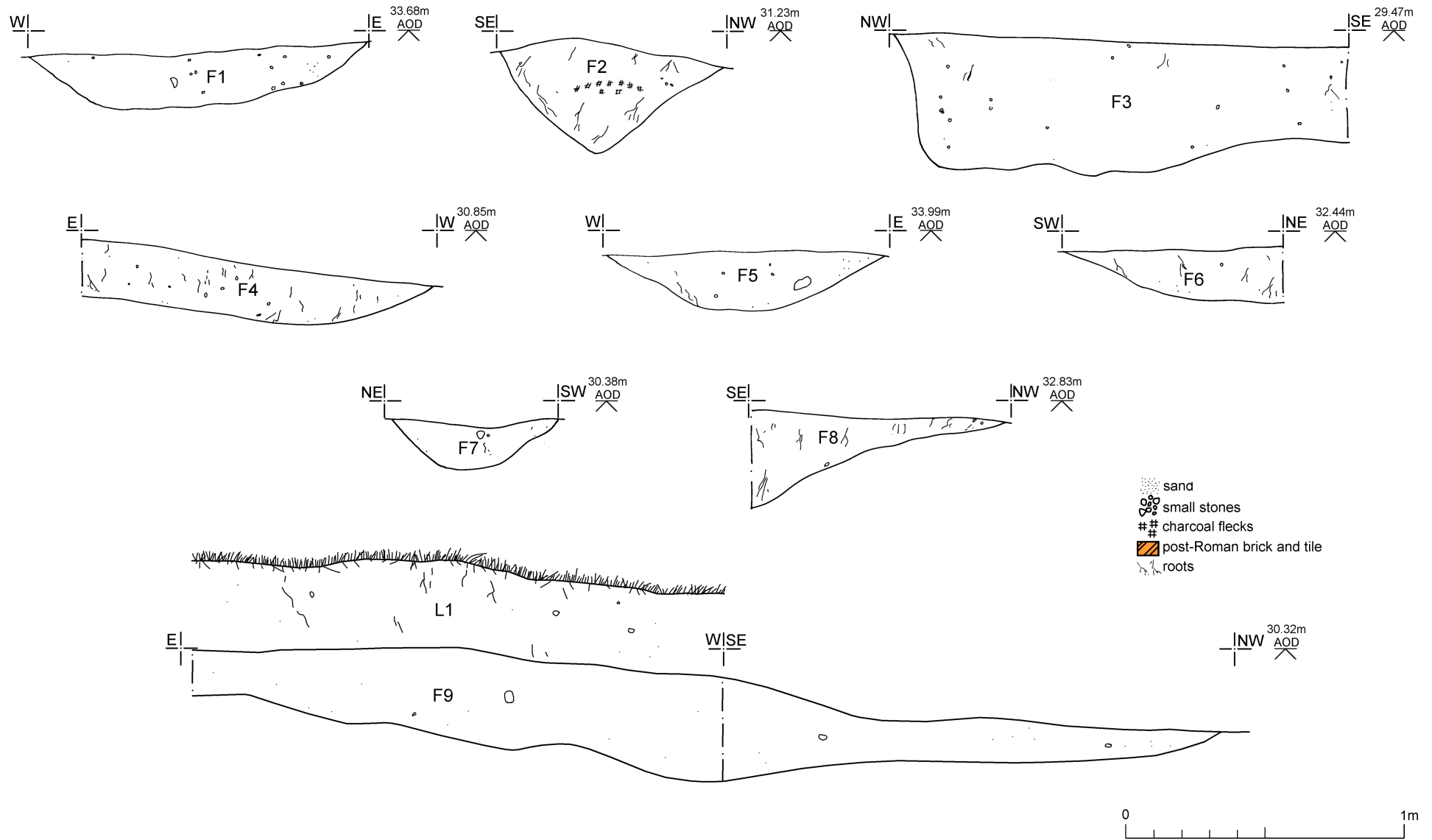


Fig 6 Feature sections.

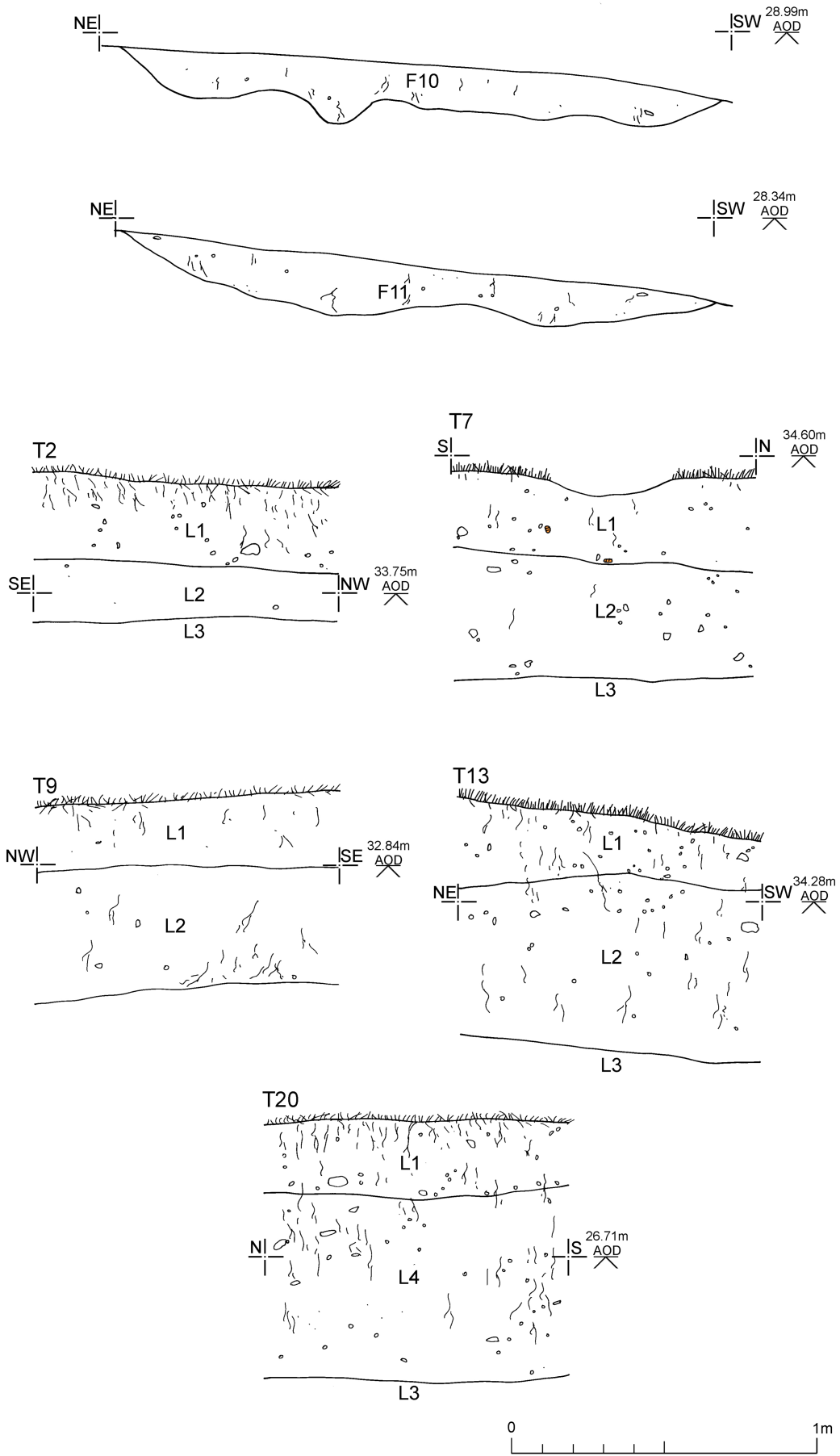


Fig 7 Feature and representative sections.

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation at Brantham Place, Church Lane, Brantham, Suffolk, CO11 1QA.

NGR: TM 1104 3416 (centre)

Planning references: DC/18/05177/FUL

District: Babergh

Parish: Brantham

Commissioned by: Sophie Gittins (Granville Developments)

Client: Granville Developments

Curating museum: Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service

Suffolk parish number: BNT 101

CAT project code: 2020/08i

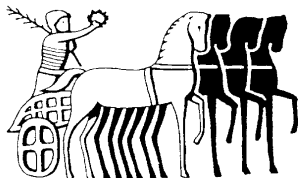
OASIS reference no.: colchest3-406586

Site manager: Chris Lister

SCCAS Monitor: Matthew Baker

This WSI written: 11/11/2020

Revised: 16/04/2021



COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST,
Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel: 01206 501785

email: eh@catuk.org

Site location and description

The development site is located at Brantham Place, Church Lane, Brantham, Suffolk, approximately 1.4km north of the River Stour, 2km north of Manningtree and 9km southwest of the outskirts of Ipswich (Fig 1). Site is centered on National Grid Reference (NGR) TM 1104 3416. The development area comprises of a 1.7 hectare plot within a 4.3 hectare site.

Proposed work

The development comprises the erection of fifteen new dwellings and the conversion of an existing dwelling into six apartments and associated infrastructure.

Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on information from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk), SCC invoice number 9241187.

Geology

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale¹) shows the bedrock geology of the site as Red Crag Formation (sand) with superficial deposits of Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup (sand and gravel).

Historic landscape

The Brantham area is defined as *plateau farmlands* in the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment². Within the Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map³ it is defined as Landscape sub-type 10.3 built up area - village. The landscape immediately around Brantham is characterised as sub-type 3.4 (post 1950 agricultural landscape – boundary loss from irregular co-axial fields), sub-type 5.1 (meadow or managed wetland – meadow) and 1.1 (pre 18th-century enclosure – random fields). The site is situated on a south facing slope which is topographically favourable for early occupation, over a valley leading into Seafeld Bay.

Archaeology⁴ (Fig 3)

(All measurements are taken from the centre point of the development site to the centre point of the archaeological site). The background is focused on results within a 1km radius of the site.

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¹ British Geological Survey – <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?>

² <http://www.suffolklandscape.org.uk/>

³ The Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map, version 3, 2008, Suffolk County Council

⁴ This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

The Augustian Dodnash Priory provides documentary evidence within its charters for a small castle (castello) of Hamo Petit (809m SW BNT 080) and a salthouse (509m SW BNT 081), both dating to the early 13th century AD.

Approximately 198m ENE lies the Historic England Grade II Church of St Michael the Archangel (BNT 023/DSF2887). The oldest sections of the existing church date to the 14th-century with extensive rebuilding and restorations in c 1800 and c 1869. It is likely that an earlier church, possibly wooden, would have been situated within the same area.

Brantham Hall (BNT 093\DSF2888, 974 ESE) is a timber-framed Historic England Grade II Listed farmstead dating to the 15th-century or earlier, with later alterations. The Farmstead is visible on early mapping and included a rectangular moat (BNT 022).

Several finds have been found within the search area for these periods. These include an Anglo-Saxon brooch (BNT 086, 790m SW) and a medieval medallion or badge (BNT 012, 763m NE).

An archaeological evaluation on land off Factory Lane revealed a large shallow hollow with finds dating to the late 13th-mid 14th centuries and a post-medieval boundary (BNT 069, Wroe-Brown 2014).

Post-medieval-modern: Monuments attributed to this period include cropmarks recorded through aerial photography c 947m southeast of the site reveal multi-period trackways and historic field boundaries (BNT 015). The decoy, a dunbird or pochard pond with three decoy pipes, damaged by construction of railway line (BNT 018, 787m S).

During a project to record the farmsteads of Suffolk (Campbell & McSorley 2019) a number of historic farmsteads were noted on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map within the search area. These include: Church House (BNT 091, within the site boundary), Church Farm (BNT 090, 165 NNE), Marsh Farm (BNT 094, 960m SE), Palfry Farm (BNT 097, 1km SSW) and Decoypond House (BNT 098, 960m S).

The Ipswich to Colchester railway line opened in 1846 (SUF 068, 737m W).

Undated: Undated monuments include cropmarks of groups of inter-related curvilinear ditches (BNT 019 954m WNW) and a sub-circular of double ditched enclosure and lines of discontinuous ditches (BNT 072 623m SSE).

An evaluation on land north of Windyridge, Brantham Hill revealed two shallow ditches with no dating evidence (ESF25480, Newman 2017).

Negative:

Previous archaeological investigations with undatable or negative results include: a watching brief at Brooklands Primary School and two evaluations at Palfry Heights which revealed evidence of possible quarrying (ESF18741, Newman 2001, BNT 068 ESF22272, Newman 1998 and ESF24772, Newman 1999); monitoring at Kettles, Rectory Lane (ESF20245, Cass 2009), test pits at St Michael's church (ESF23202, Pooley 2016) and monitoring at The Kennels, Church Lane (ESF22232, Payne 2013) revealed no archaeological features or finds.

Find spots

Within the search area a few artefacts have been found and recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme that include late prehistoric lithics, a Bronze Age spearhead, Roman brooches, coins and horse fittings, an Anglo-Saxon fitting, medieval metalwork and pottery and post-medieval tokens and seals.

Listed buildings⁵ (Fig 3)

There are 4 Historic England listed buildings within 1km of the development site. They are all Grade II listed and date from the 14th-to-19th century. Buildings not mentioned above include

⁵ This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

and The Thatched Cottage dated to c 17th-18th century (DSF2524, 813m SW) and the post-medieval/modern Lynchgate. Built c 1897 in Arts & Crafts style (DSF1378, 178m ENE).

Planning background

An application was submitted to Babergh District Council (DC/18/05177/FUL) in December 2018 for the *erection of 15no. dwellings including 7no. affordable units. Conversion of existing dwelling to provide 6no. apartments. Alterations to 2no. vehicular accesses.*

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the Suffolk HER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT). The recommended archaeological condition is based on the condition based on the guidance given in the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019).

NB A variation to the planning application to allow a phased approach to the development has been agreed with Babergh District Council since the initial approval of this WSI (see Fig 2).

Requirement for work

The required archaeological work is for trenched archaeological evaluation. Details are given in the Project Brief (*Brief for a trenched archaeological evaluation at Brantham Place, Church Lane, Brantham*) written by Matthew Baker of SCCAS (2020).

As per the brief, 5% of the development site will be sampled (472m of linear trenching at 1.8m wide, covering an area of 850m², see Fig 2). Twenty three trenches 20m long (T1-T2 & T4-T24) and one trench 12m (T3) long are proposed, located in a linear grid pattern across the development area (see Fig 2), some trenches are rotated slightly to avoid obstacles such as trees.

Localised extensions to trenches may be required by the SCCAS after the site monitoring visit. This will only be used if unclear archaeological remains or geomorphological features present difficulties of interpretation, or to assist with the formulation of a mitigation strategy.

Trial-trenching is required to:

- identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/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 practices, timetables and orders of costs.

All work will take place within and contribute to the goals of the Regional research frameworks (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011).

Decision on the need for any further archaeological investigation (eg excavation) will be made by SCCAS, in a further brief, based on the results presented in the report for this evaluation. Any further investigation will be the subject of a further WSI, submitted to SCCAS for scrutiny and formally approved by the LPA.

This document represents a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the archaeological evaluation ONLY; this document alone will NOT result in the discharge of the archaeological condition.

NB Due to the revised phased approach to the development permission was sought from SCCAS to undertake the evaluation in a commensurate phased approach and duly granted by Matthew Baker. As a result seven of the trenches (T14, T16, T19, T21-T24) will be excavated in advance of Phase 2 and not as part of the Phase 1 trenching.

Staffing

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: one supervisor plus four archaeologists for five days.

In charge of day-to-day site work: Adam Wightman/Mark Baister

General methodology

All work carried out by CAT will be in accordance with:

- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (ClfA 2014a-c)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2020), including a Risk Assessment which will be carried out before the evaluation begins.
- the Project Brief issued by SCCAS (2020)
- The outline specification within *Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* (SCCAS 2020) to be used alongside the Project Brief.

CAT is covered by Aviva Insurance Ltd, 006288/04/20, which includes Professional Indemnity £2,000,000, Employer's Liability £10,000,000 and Public Liability £5,000,000.

Professional CAT field archaeologists will undertake all specified archaeological work, for which they will be suitably experienced and qualified.

Notification of the supervisor/project manager's name and the start date for the project will be provided to SCCAS ten days before start of work.

Unless it is the responsibility of other site contractors, CAT will study mains service locations and avoid damage to these.

Prior to the commencement of the site a HER parish code will be sought from the HER team. The HER parish code will be used to identify the finds bags and boxes, and the project archive when it is deposited at the curating museum.

At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to SCCAS. This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

Evaluation methodology

Where appropriate, modern overburden and any topsoil stripping/levelling will be performed using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist. If no archaeologically significant deposits are exposed, machine excavation will continue until natural subsoil is reached. Machine assistance may also be required for very large/deep features and a contingency has been made within the budget if required, but all features will be hand excavated unless specifically agreed with SCCAS.

Where necessary, areas will be cleaned by hand to ensure the visibility of archaeological deposits.

If archaeological features or deposits are uncovered, time will be allowed for these to be excavated, planned and recorded. **All** features will be excavated and recorded unless otherwise agreed with SCCAS.

There will be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. For linear features 1m wide sections will be excavated across their width to a total of 10% of the overall length. Discrete features, such as pits, will have 50% of their fills excavated, although certain features may be fully excavated. Complex

archaeological structures such as walls, kilns, ovens or burials will be carefully cleaned, planned and fully recorded, but where possible left *in situ*. Only if it can be demonstrated that the complex structure/feature is likely to be destroyed by groundworks, and only then after discussion with the SCCAS, will it be removed.

Trenches will first be stepped where appropriate to allow for safe excavation of deep features. After discussion with SCCAS the use of a hand held auger (or a power auger where appropriate) will be used where necessary to gain information from very deep deposits/features if depth cannot be established through hand excavation.

Any complex/unexpected deposits will be discussed with SCCAS to agree a strategy.

Fast hand-excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy.

The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits will be established. Therefore, a sondage will be excavated in each trench to test the stratigraphy of the site. This will occur in every trench unless it can be demonstrated that a feature excavated within a particular trench has clearly penetrated into natural.

A representative section will be drawn of each trench, to include ground level, the depth of machining within the trench and the depth of any sondages.

The use of a hand held auger (or a power auger where appropriate) will be used where necessary to gain information from very deep deposits/features.

A metal detector will be used to scan all trenches both before and during excavation. This will be carried out by trained CAT staff under the supervision of project manager/supervisors Adam Wightman, Mark Baister or Ben Holloway who have over 5 years experience of metal detecting on archaeological sites. Experienced metal detectorist Geoff Lunn will be available for advice and support throughout the project. Geoff has 4 years experience and has worked with CAT to recover finds from recent excavations at the Mercury Theatre and Essex County Hospital sites in Colchester, and who has also worked with the Colchester Archaeological Group, Suffolk Archaeology, Access Cambridge Archaeology, The Citizen Project (MOLA) and others. If considered necessary, Geoff will be employed by CAT for to assist with the metal detecting. All finds will have their location recorded via GPS or with the Total Station. All spoil heaps will also be scanned and finds recovered.

Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on pro-forma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds, small finds and soil samples.

All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.

The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits. A photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. Standard "record" shots of contexts will be taken on a digital camera. A photographic register will accompany the photographic record. This will detail as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.

Trenches will not be backfilled until they have been signed off by the SCCAS.

Site surveying

The evaluation trench and any features will be surveyed by Total Station or GPS, unless the particulars of the features indicate that manual planning techniques should be employed. Normal scale for archaeological site plans and sections is 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

The site grid will be tied into the National Grid. Corners of excavation areas will be located by NGR coordinates.

Environmental sampling policy

The number and range of samples collected will be adequate to determine the potential of the site, with particular focus on palaeoenvironmental remains including both biological remains (e.g. plants, small vertebrates) and small sized artefacts (e.g. smithing debris), and to provide information for sampling strategies on any future excavation. Samples will be collected for potential micromorphological and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming context is large enough)

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

- the range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged), and their quality
- concentrations of macro-remains
- and differences in remains from undated and dated features
- variation between different feature types and areas of site

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer/Lisa Gray whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course. Trained CAT staff will process the samples (unless complex or otherwise needing specialist processing) and the flots will be sent to VF/LG for reporting.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF/LG will be asked onto site to advise. Waterlogged 'organic' features will always be sampled. In all cases, the advice of VF/LG and/or the Historic England Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science (East of England) on sampling strategies for complex or waterlogged deposits will be followed, including the taking of monolith samples.

Human remains

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *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.

If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the monitoring, the following criteria would be applied; if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Department of Justice for a licence to remove them. In that case, conditions laid down by the license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and SCCAS will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

Following HE guidance (HE 2018) all archaeological human remains excavated during the course of the evaluation will either be analysed and reported by CAT project osteologist Megan Seehra or will be sent to external specialist Julie Curl.

Photographic record

The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits and follow HE guidelines (HE 2015a). A photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. Standard "record" shots of contexts will be taken on a digital camera. A photographic register will accompany the photographic record. This will detail as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.

Basic site record shots will be taken using the site recording tablet at a resolution of 2592 x 1944 (5 megapixels).

Photographs of significant archaeological features and deposits will be taken using a Nikon D3500 DSLR camera with a 24.2 megapixel DX-format sensor.

Post-excavation assessment

If a post-excavation assessment is required by SCCAS, it will be normally be submitted within 2 months of the end of fieldwork, or as quickly as is reasonably practicable and at a time agreed with SCCAS.

Where archaeological results do not warrant a post-excavation assessment, preparation of the normal site report will begin.

Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number.

Most of our finds reports are written internally by CAT Staff under the supervision and direction of Philip Crummy (Director) and Howard Brooks (Deputy Director). This includes specialist subjects such as:

- ceramic finds (pottery and ceramic building material): Dr Matthew Loughton
- animal bones: Alec Wade (or Adam Wightman, small groups only)
- small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley
- non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley
- flints: Adam Wightman
- environmental processing: Bronagh Quinn
- project osteologist (human remains): Meghan Seehra

or to outside specialists:

- animal and human bone: Julie Curl (Sylvanus)
- environmental assessment and analysis: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray
- radiocarbon dating: SUERC Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory, Glasgow
- conservation/x-ray: Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation) / Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services

Other specialists whose opinion can be sought on large or complex groups include:

- flint: Hazel Martingell / Tom Lawrence
- prehistoric pottery: Stephen Benfield / Nigel Brown / Paul Sealey
- Roman pottery: Stephen Benfield / Paul Sealey / Jo Mills / Val Rigby / Gwladys Monteil
- Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black / Ian Betts (MOLA)
- Roman glass: Hilary Cool
- small finds: Nina Crummy

other: EH Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).

All finds of potential treasure will be removed to a safe place, and reported immediately to the Suffolk FLO (Finds Liaison Office) who will inform the coroner within 14 days, in accordance with the rules of the Treasure Act 1996. The definition of treasure is given in pages 3-5 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects.

Requirements for conservation and storage of finds will be agreed with SCCAS and carried out as per their guidelines (SCCAS 2019b).

Results

Notification will be given to SCCAS when the fieldwork has been completed.

An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (HE 2015b).

The draft final report will be submitted within 6 months of the end of fieldwork for approval by SCCAS.

The approved final report will normally be submitted to SCCAS as both a PDF and a hard copy.

The report will contain:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological project
- Location plan of the area in relation to the proposed development.
- Section/s drawings showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion and results referring to Regional Research Frameworks (EAA8, EAA14 & EAA24).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results
- Appendices to include a copy of the completed OASIS summary sheet and the approved WSI

Results will be published, to at least a summary level, in the PSIAH (Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History) annual round up should archaeological remains be encountered in the evaluation. An allowance will be made for this in the project costs for the report.

Final reports are also published on the CAT website and on the OASIS website.

Archive deposition

The archive will be deposited with the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service as per their archive guidelines (SCCAS 2019).

If the client does not agree to transfer ownership to SCCAS they will be required to nominate another suitable repository approved by SCCAS or provide funding for additional recording and analysis of the finds archive (such as, but not limited to, additional photography or illustration of objects). In the rare event that artefacts of significant monetary value are discovered, separate ownership arrangements may be negotiated, provided they are not subject to Treasure Act legislation.

If the finds are to remain with the landowner or an approved third party, a full copy of the archive will be housed with the SCCAS.

The archive will be deposited with the SCCAS within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to SCCAS. Prior to deposition CAT's data management plan (based on the official guidelines from the Digital Curation Centre [DCC 2013]) will ensure the integrity of the digital archive.

Monitoring

SCCAS officers are responsible for monitoring all archaeological work within Suffolk and will need to inspect site works at an appropriate time during the fieldwork and will review the progress of excavation reports and/or archive preparation.

Notification of the start of work will be given to SCCAS ten days in advance of its commencement and a monitoring visit will be booked with SCCAS at this time.

Any variations in this WSI will be agreed with SCCAS prior to them being carried out.

SCCAS will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

The involvement of SCCAS shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

SCCAS remote monitoring requirements during the Covid-19 pandemic

Currently SCCAS are undertaking monitoring visits.

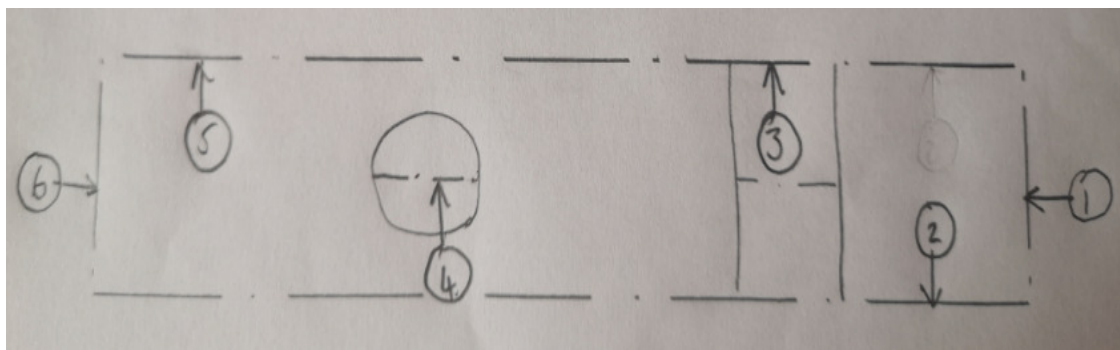
However, if government/local government advice changes due to a spike in cases/localised lockdown, *etc.* SCCAS may have to start remotely monitoring sites again.

In this case, the following remote monitoring requirements have been laid-out by SCCAS:

- All features present in the trenches, including presumed natural and geological features are to be investigated as per the WSI

In addition, the following must be sent to the SCCAS to enable them to decide if the fieldwork can be signed-off and trenches backfilled.

- GPS trench plans showing what is present in each trench – with context numbers included,
- Written text stating what finds were found (if any) in each context, with provisional date,
- Text stating which features environmental samples have been taken from,
- Photographs of 1) each trench, from each end of the trench; 2) trench sections (bulk); and 3) features (all photographs will be taken at appropriate times of day and not in bad lighting conditions and once trenches, sections, features have been cleaned)
- A diagram showing the direction each photograph was taken from, with photograph number. For example,



Provision will be made in the timetable of works for the SCCAS to review the remote monitoring documents and for any queries to be resolved.

CAT understands that if SCCAS cannot gain sufficient information remotely, they will not be able to sign off fieldwork which may lead to delays in the completion of projects.

Education and outreach

The CAT website (www.thecolchesterarchaeologist.co.uk) is updated regularly with information on current sites. Copies of our reports (grey literature) can be viewed on the website and downloaded for free. Staff regularly give lectures to groups, societies and schools (a fee may apply). CAT also works in partnership with Colchester Archaeological Group (providing a venue for their lectures and library) and the local Young Archaeologists Club.

CAT archaeologists can be booked for lectures and information on fees can be obtained by contacting the office on 01206 501785.

References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in PDF format at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

Brown, N and Glazenbrook, J	2000	<i>Research and Archaeology: a frame work for the Eastern Counties 2 Research agenda and strategy</i> , East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers 8 (EAA 8)
Campbell, G & McSorley, G	2019	<i>Farmsteads in the Suffolk Countryside Project</i> . SCCAS unpublished report
Cass, S	2009	<i>Archaeological Monitoring Report, Kettles, Rectory Lane, Brantham</i>
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CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological evaluation</i> . Updated Oct 2020

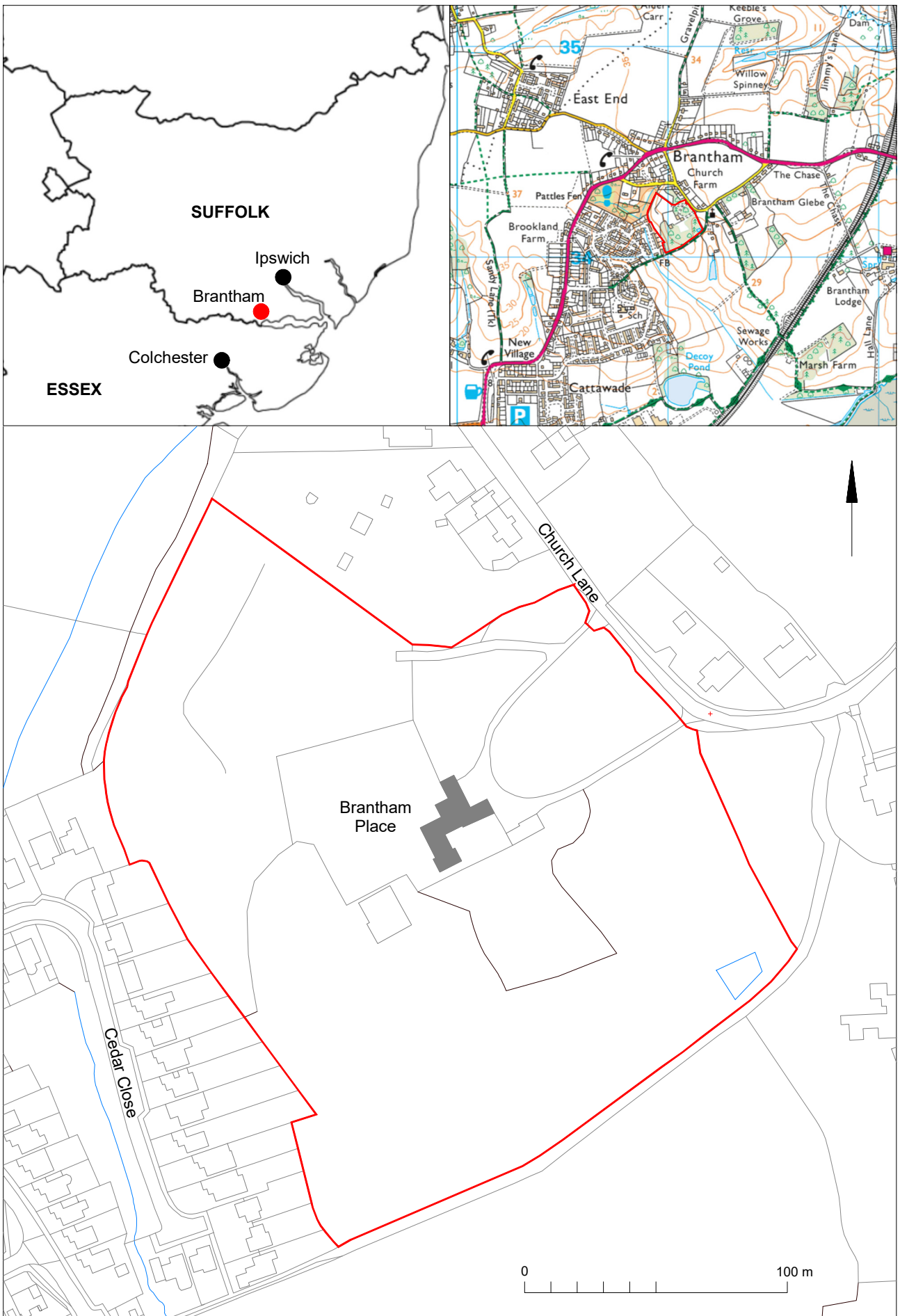
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.</i> Updated Oct 2020
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Digital Curation Centre (DCC)	2013	<i>Checklist for Data Management Plan v. 4.0</i>
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Historic England (HE)	2015b	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
Historic England (HE)	2018	<i>The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project.</i> By S Mays, M Brickley and J Sidell
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)
MHCLG	2019	National Planning Policy Framework. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
Newman, J	1998	<i>Archaeological Evaluation Report: Palfrey Heights, Brantham.</i>
Newman, J	1999	<i>Archaeological Evaluation Report: Palfrey Heights, Brantham - Phase 2.</i>
Newman, J	2001	<i>A watching brief at Brooklands CP School, Bratham</i>
Newman, J	2017	<i>Archaeological Evaluation Report, Land North of Windyridge, Brantham Hill, Brantham, Suffolk.</i>
Payne, D	2013	<i>Archaeological Recording Report, at the Kennels, Church Lane, Brantham.</i>
Pooley, L	2016	<i>Archaeological test pits and St Michael the Archangel, Brantham, Suffolk, CO11 1PZ – September 2015.</i> CAT Report 880
SCC	2012	<i>The Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map, version 3</i>
SCCAS	2019	<i>Archaeological Archives in Suffolk: Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition</i>
SCCAS	2020	<i>Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation.</i> Updated Oct 2020
SCCAS	2020	<i>Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at Bratham Place, Church Lane, Brantham,</i> by Matthew Baker
Wroe-Brown, R	2014	<i>Archaeological Evaluation, Land adjacent to Factory Lane, Brantham, Suffolk.</i>

E Holloway



Colchester Archaeological Trust,
Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel: 01206 501785
email: eh@catuk.org



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Fig 1 Site location.

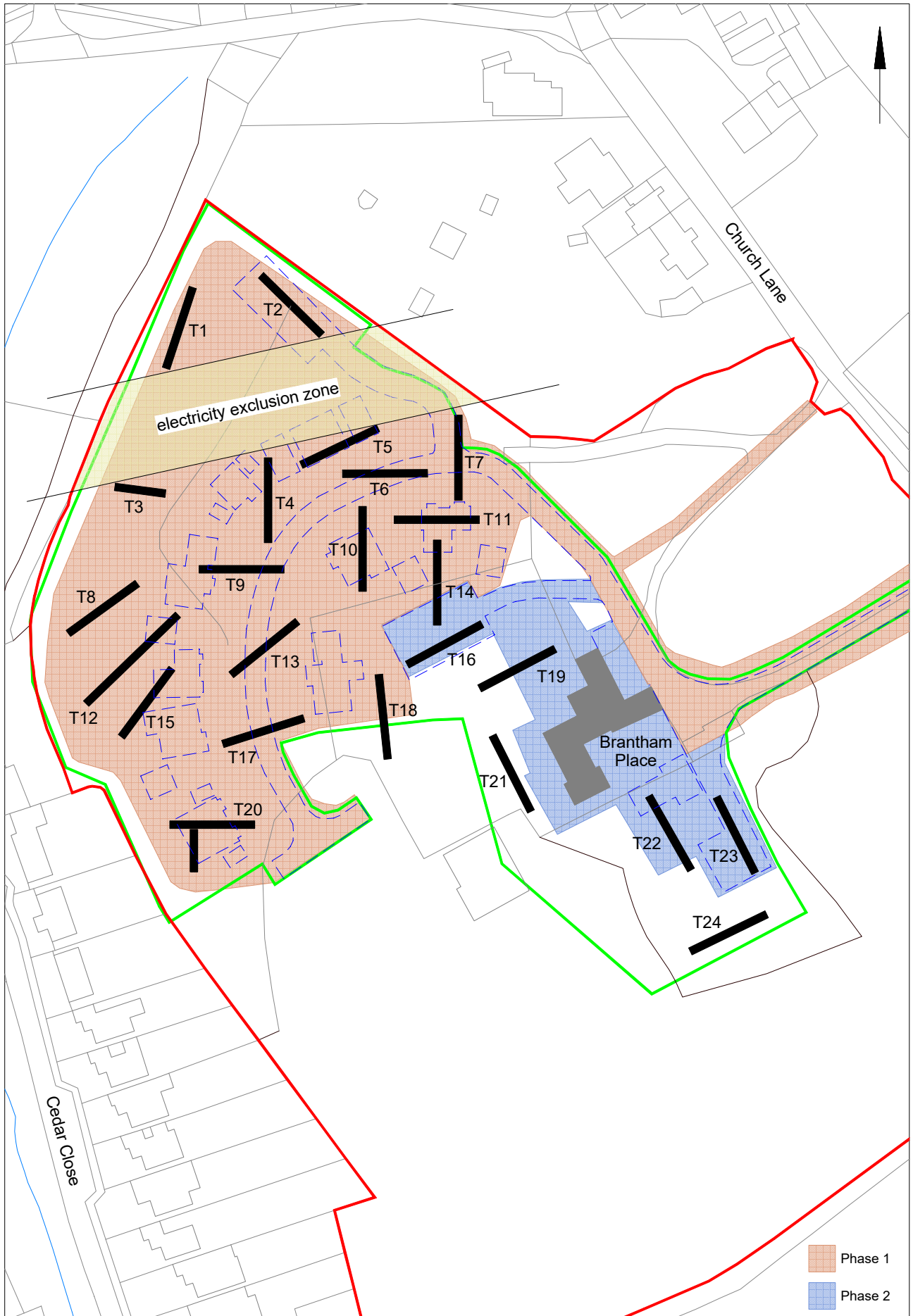


Fig 2 Trench layout in relation to site constraints and proposed development (dashed blue lines).



Fig 3 Development site (in red) shown in relation to archaeological and historic sites recorded on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record.

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OASIS ID: colchest3-406586

Project details

Project name	Archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching at Brantham Place, Church Lane, Brantham, Suffolk, CO11 1QA
Short description of the project	Phase 1 of an archaeological evaluation (sixteen trenches) was carried out at Brantham Place, Church Lane, Brantham, Suffolk, in advance of the construction of fifteen new dwellings and the conversion of an existing dwelling. The site is located within the vicinity of four listed buildings and two historic farmsteads. Despite the location of the site the only features uncovered were one pit and seven tree-throws. Three natural features were also excavated.
Project dates	Start: 06-07-2021 End: 08-07-2021
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	DC/18/05177/FUL - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	2020/08i - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	BNT 101 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	TREE-THROW Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH BRANTHAM Brantham Place, Church Lane, Brantham, Suffolk
Postcode	CO11 1QA
Study area	1.7 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 1104 3416 51.965253113532 1.0724006938 51 57 54 N 001 04 20 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
----------------------	---------------------------------

Project brief originator HEM Team Officer, SCC

Project design originator Emma Holloway

Project director/manager Chris Lister

Project supervisor Ben Holloway

Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Name of sponsor/funding body Granville Developments

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Archaeological Data Service

Digital Archive ID BNT 101

Digital Contents "none"

Digital Media available "Text", "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey"

Paper Archive recipient Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service

Paper Archive ID BNT 101

Paper Contents "none"

Paper Media available "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Archaeological evaluation at Brantham Place (Phase 1), Church Lane, Brantham, Suffolk, CO11 1QA: June 2021

Author(s)/Editor(s) Veasey, S

Other bibliographic details CAT Report 1688

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