

Site name: Great Whip Street

Site ref: IAS 7501 HER ref: IPS 144 CIMS Accession No: IPSMG:R.2009.38

NGR: TM16494385 Extent: 65 sq m

Circumstances of excavation

This site was one of few open areas fronting the east side of Great Whip Street within a large malthouse complex. ABM Malting Ltd gave permission for an opportunistic excavation in 1974.

Site constraints

There were no constraints on the excavation.

Funding bodies

The excavation was funded by Suffolk County Council and the Department of the Environment (Ancient Monuments Branch).

Stratigraphic sequence (by period)

Middle Saxon: c.700-850 (MS)

Four pits (0024, 0031, 0076, 0078), one posthole (0060) and a short length of foundation trench (0068), belonged to this period.

Early Medieval: c.1000-1200 (EMED)

Three pits (0002, 0058, 0059), a ditch (0080) and a short length of foundation trench (0055), belonged to this period. Ditch (0080) was presumably a roadside ditch for Great Whip Street. Pits 0058 and 0059 and ditch 0080 were filled at the end of the period as they contained late 12th century coarseware.

Late Medieval: c.1200-1450 (LMED)

Two pits (0075 and 0084) belonged to this period. Pit 0084 was unusually elongated in shape.

Late Medieval Transitional: c.1450-1600 (LMT)

Five pits (0022, 0032, 0036, 0057, 0083), a rectangular flint and mortar lined cess pit (0013), 1.4m deep, and a circular well, 2.2m deep, with a timber-lined shaft (0085), indicated residential occupation of the street front during this period. Posthole 0079, which cut LMT well pit 0085 is LMT or later.

Post Medieval: c.1600-1900 (PMED)

A well (0082), four pits (0023, 0052, 0064, 0070), and two postholes (0050, 0061) belonged to this period.

Undated

Two pits (0072, 0081), the end of a slot (0020) and a line of postholes (0004, 0005, 0008, 0009, 0071), running east-west, at the south end of the site, were undated.

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