Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School, School Corner, Debenham, Suffolk

Planning application: 2559/12

HER Ref: DBN 148

Archaeological Evaluation Report

(© John Newman BA MIFA, 2 Pearsons Place, Henley, Ipswich, IP6 0RA)

(June 2013)

(Tel: 01473 832896 Email: johnnewman2@btinternet.com)

Site details for HER

Name: Land at Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School, School Corner, Debenham, Suffolk, IP14 6PL

Client: Debenham Community Swimming Pool Committee

Local planning authority: Mid Suffolk DC

Planning application ref: 2559/12

Development: Construction of new classroom & swimming pool (latter only for evaluation)

Date of fieldwork: 20 May, 2013

HER Ref: DBN 148

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-150608

Grid ref: TM 1734 6375

Development area: c300m^2 (proposed pool)

Contents

Summary: Debenham, Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School, School Corner (DB 148, TM 1734 6375*) evaluation trenching for a planned community swimming pool within the school grounds revealed two entrances to either a single air raid shelter of World War II date or a pair of shelters. Local residents recalled air raid shelters in this area though their exact location had been lost. In an area with a substantial depth of top and subsoil close to tributary stream of the River Deben called The Gulls no earlier archaeological finds or features were recorded (John Newman Archaeological Services for Debenham Community Swimming Pool Committee).*

1. Introduction & background

1.1 The Debenham Community Swimming Pool Committee commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological evaluation works for a planned pool development within the grounds of the Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School, School Corner, Debenham under planning application 2559/12 which has been granted. This application also covered the erection of a new classroom but with minimal ground works for a largely timber structure archaeological input was not required for this part of the overall development. The evaluation requirements were set out in a Brief by Dr J Tipper of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service with the aim of gaining a representative sample by trial trenching of the planned swimming pool area and a Written Scheme of Investigation for the archaeological evaluation (see Appendix II) was subsequently prepared by JNAS in order to gain a conditional discharge and allow the trenching to go ahead before any other ground works are undertaken.

1.2 Debenham is a small market town in central Suffolk to the north of Ipswich that had, in all probability been established by the late Saxon period at least, and flourished through the medieval period with the market being recorded from 1221. The town is focused on the area around the parish church and the main, north-south aligned, historic high street that runs parallel to the upper part of the River Deben which rises just to the north of the town. The Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School is located at the northern end of the High Street on its western side some 500m north of the church. The school is also located just to the north of the upper reaches of the River Deben at the point where it leaves the line of the High Street to run westwards to its source while to the east of the school a stream called The Gulls runs along the western edge of the Aspall Road to meet the River Deben at School Corner. Topographically the school has a south-easterly aspect just below the 40m OD contour in an area generally dominated by heavy soils derived from the local glaciofluvial Till deposits with better drained sands and gavels in the valley bottoms.

1.3 In addition to its location on the northern edge of the historic core to the town at Debenham scatters of Anglo-Saxon period finds and medieval pottery have also been recorded to the north of the school grounds making the overall area one of archaeological interest and potential. Previous developments within the school grounds for extensions and a pre-school building have been the subject of archaeological observation and while no finds of any antiquity were recovered overburden depths comprising top and subsoil in excess of 1m were recorded.

1.4 The proposed swimming pool site is located on the eastern side of the school grounds to the north of the pre-school building and just to the west of The Gulls (see Fig. 1) in an area that slopes down gently from north-west to south-east and at the time of the evaluation was moderately over-grown.

2. Evaluation methodology

2.1 The area of the proposed swimming pool development was trenched to a previously agreed plan (see Fig. 2) with the trench running along the eastern side of an existing bicycle shelter and along the length of the planned pool on its eastern side.

2.2 The trenching was undertaken using a wheeled 180 machine equipped with a 1500mm wide flat bucket which was under archaeological supervision at all times with any indistinct areas being hand cleaned for better clarity. In total 25m of 1.80m wide trench were opened giving a total sample area of 45m^2 or well in excess of 10% of the pool area of c300m^2.

2.2 The base of the trenches and the upcast spoil were examined visually and scanned with a metal detector for any finds as the work progressed and any indistinct areas or potential features were investigated and cleaned by hand, with particular attention being paid to the two brick and concrete structures that were exposed, though the southern quarter of the trench was too deep to enter with a recent and loose filled pit exposed in the section. In addition a section was hand excavated across the line of the northern brick and concrete structure as it ran across the trench while the southern one terminated within the trench. Site visibility for features and finds is considered to have been good throughout the evaluation which was undertaken under dry and sunny conditions. At the end of the evaluation the location of the trench was plotted from nearby mapped features and as the evaluation progressed a full photographic record in digital format (see Appendix I) was taken of the trenching works. The opportunity was also taken to allow staff and pupils from the school to examine the open trench from a safe distance and behind a safety fence.

3. Results

3.1 In this case the results are most easily summarised as in the table below to allow clarity regarding trench depth, overburden composition and features identified (see also Figs. 2 & 3, Appendix I- Images):

Orientation-Northeast-southwest	Length 25m	Topsoil depth (mm)	Subsoil depth (mm)	Trench depth (mm)	Drift geology	Archaeological/ natural features & finds
Northern end		500	600	1100	Pale to mid brown silty sand with numerous small, medium & large flints	Recent deep pit in SE corner with loose fill, two brick & concrete WW II air raid shelter entrance ramps for shelter(s) to west of trench
Mid point		500	800	1300		
Southern end		500	1500	2000		
	25			*1100-2000*		By area: 45m^2

Table 1: Trench details

3.2 As table 1 indicates the depth of top and subsoil revealed along the trench was substantial with the southern, down slope, end being particularly deep with 500mm of topsoil over 1500mm of mid brown silty sand subsoil over the locally occurring glaciofluvial deposit of pale brown sand with flints. A large pit of recent date was also exposed in the south-eastern corner of the trench and with this combination of trench depth and loose fill the southern quarter of the trench was not entered though no archaeological features could be seen in the natural sand with flints at its base.

3.3 The overall depth of the trench did reduce gradually from south to north from 2000mm to 1100mm with the only other features that were revealed being two brick walled and concrete lined ramps that sloped down from east to west on parallel

south-east to north-west alignments (see Fig. 3). These parallel brick walled concrete ramps were 8m apart with the northern one running across the width of the trench while the southern one terminated at a point 500mm from the eastern trench side with an irregular edge in all probability caused during the demolition of the overall structure with the ramps forming entrances to one or two air raid shelters to the west. The top of the brick walls to the southern ramp were exposed at a depth of 900mm while those of the northern one at a depth of 700mm.

3.4 The two ramp entrances were identical in construction and size with each having an external width of 800mm and an internal one of 600mm and the drop on the ramp base for the northern example across the trench from east to west was 700mm. The walls on each side of the two ramp entrances were of a single brick thickness with all of the bricks being of a common red type stamped LBC 6, for the London Brick Company, and 'PHORPRES' within the frog recess and of a standard size of 9 inches x $4^{1}/_{4}$ inches x $2^{7}/_{8}$ inches (228mm x 109mm x 74mm) while the ramp surface was concrete.

3.5 Apart from brick debris around the two exposed ramp entrances and modern debris from the pit in the south-eastern corner of the trench the only finds from the upcast spoil of the trench were occasional blue and white transfer printed pottery sherds of later Post medieval date and a single small sherd (3g) of glazed red earthenware of 18th century date plus a few small fragments of Post medieval peg tile. The detector search recovered only occasional small iron nails and scraps of hinge or bracket of indeterminate date.

4. Conclusion

4.1 While this planned swimming pool development site is in an area with an archaeological potential demonstrated by the recovery of Anglo-Saxon and medieval finds nearby the evaluation trench did not reveal any deposits or finds of any great antiquity. However the identification of the two brick and concrete built ramps is of some interest as they can be identified as the entrances to either one or two air raid shelters of mid 20th century, World War II, date with the shelter(s) they serve being at a lower depth in the area to the west of the trench and therefore within the pool footprint area. The presence of below ground air raid shelters somewhere in this part of the school grounds was known locally although their exact location had been lost and more recent developments have changed the surrounding area altering and probably removing previously existing landscape features.

4.2 That the danger to the civilian population from air raids was seen as a threat to be taken seriously is demonstrated by the passing of the 'Air Raid Precautions Act 'in 1937 some two years World War II started (Collins et al, 2010, 7). Early in the war this act was supplemented by the government in 'Air Raid Precautions in Schools' which were not surprisingly seen as particularly vulnerable potential targets and such structures are not uncommon discoveries at school sites across the country with rural East Anglia being seen as a potential target area due to the presence of numerous military airfields in the region. This latter document covered the structural requirements for shelters at school sites in addition to the need to locate them at some distance from the school buildings if possible and, again if possible, not to put shelters too close to each other. In this case the shelter at Debenham is c130m north-east of the original school buildings. Within the shelters each child was

supposed to have 28 inches (710mm) of bench space and entrances were to be staggered or set at a right angle from the main body of the structure to give maximum protection from the affects of blast being channelled into the shelter. Some shelters also had escape hatches in case the main entrances were blocked and a small part might be partitioned off inside for use as a toilet area though many shelters were constructed quickly on a more simple plan that did not foresee the potential need to cover lengthy periods underground. Communal air raid shelters were generally built using one of two basic construction methods, either as cast concrete structures on a soft wood former or brick built with a concrete roof. While in this case the main shelter has not been exposed evidence from the entrance ramps points to the latter method which was also used in towns as communal street shelters (Pears, B sec. 2/website 1). On the evidence above it might also be suggested that the ramp entrances revealed at this site serve a single shelter which is on an approximate north-south alignment at a right angle to the ramps with one at each end.

4.3 As noted the section above World War II air raid shelters are not uncommon discoveries at school sites in use during that time. However there is considerable interest in this period and its affect on the population at that time and the shelter, which clearly lies below the footprint area of the planned swimming pool, is a feature of at least local significance and has value with regard to the social history of the school and town. This interest has already been demonstrated during the evaluation as the whole school came out to view what had been revealed, in addition World War II and the affect of the air raids does form part of the national curriculum. Therefore it is recommended that a programme for the controlled emptying of the shelter structure followed by its full recording, and subsequent reporting, be put in place when ground works start at the site for the pool and before the structure has to be removed. Ideally this process would involve the school though in what way must be dependent on health and safety requirements during the clearance operation and dependant on what has been used to fill the shelter.

Archive- to be deposited with the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service under the HER ref. DBN 148.

Disclaimer- any opinions regarding the need for further archaeological work in relation to this proposed development are those of the author's alone. Formal comment regarding the need for further work must be sought from the official Archaeological Advisors to the relevant Planning Authority.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to Sacha Feeney-Howells and everyone from the pool committee and at the school for their close cooperation, Tiggy Knowland for his skilled machine work, and to Sue Holden for Fig. 3).

References

Collins T, Henry K, Pozorski Z & Tweedie H	2010	Proposed Extension, Beechwood Primary School, Linden Road, Luton, Bedfordshire- Archaeological Observation, Investigation, Building Recording, Analysis & Publication (Archaeological Solutions Report No. 3437)
Pears, B		Rowlands Gill & the north-east 1939-1945, ch. 2 Air raid shelters Website 1- http://www.bpears.org.uk/Misc/War_NE/w_section_02 (accessed 17 June, 2013)

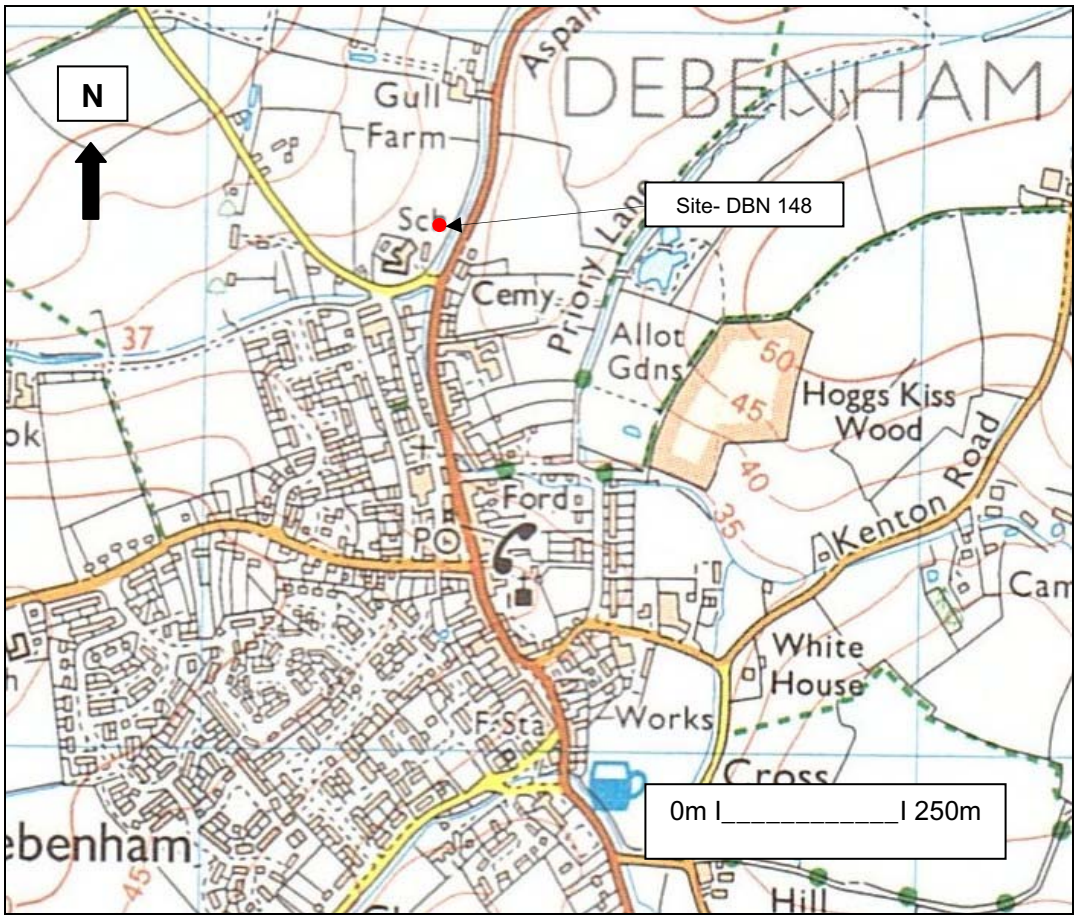

Fig. 1: Site location

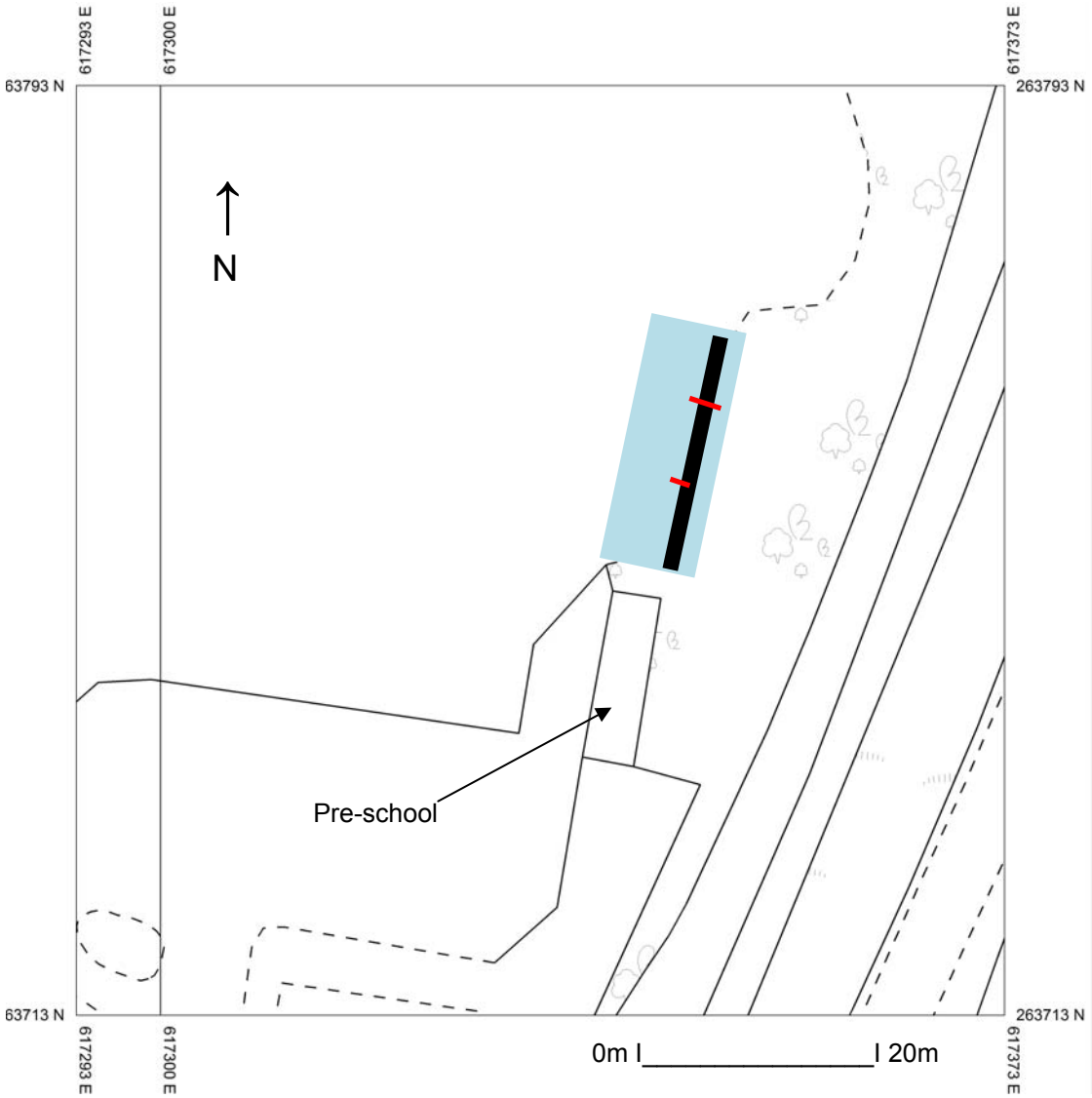

Fig. 2: Location of evaluation trench & proposed pool (light blue)
(air raid shelter entrances- red)

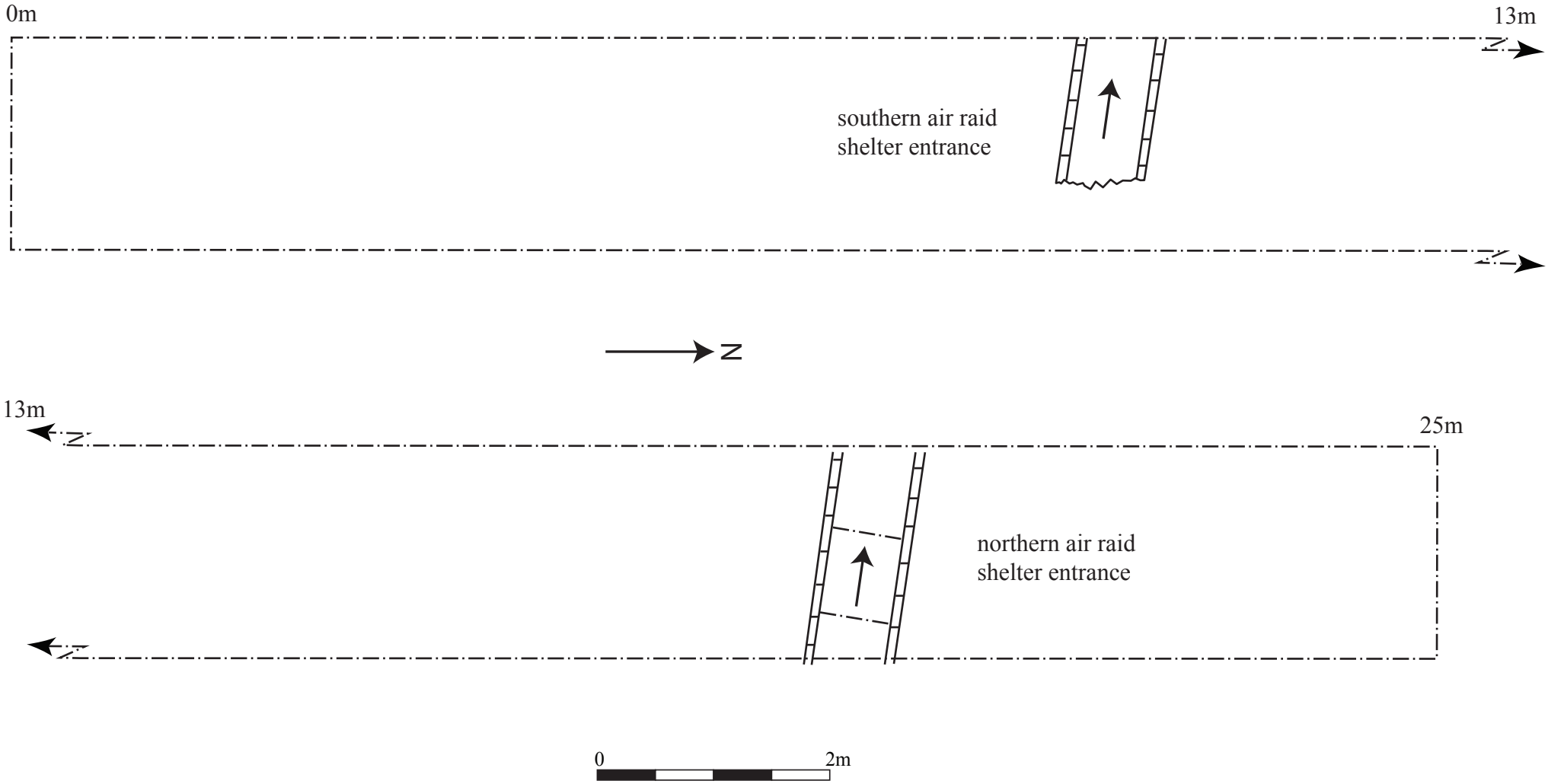

Fig. 3: Trench plan.

Appendix I- Images

Trench from south

Southern end of trench from north-west with modern pit in corner

Northern air raid shelter from west

Northern air raid shelter entrance from north

Southern air entrance from east

Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School, School Corner, Debenham, Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation

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Site details

Name: Land at Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School, School Corner, Debenham, Suffolk

Client: Debenham Community Swimming Pool Committee

Local planning authority: Mid Suffolk DC

Planning application ref: 2559/12

Proposed development: Construction of new classroom & swimming pool (latter only for evaluation)

Proposed date for evaluation: tbc

Brief ref: 2011_12_13_SCCAS_TrenchedArchaeologicalEvaluation_Brief_ Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School

Grid ref: TM 172 636

Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 The Debenham Community Swimming Pool Committee has commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological site evaluation for a proposed community swimming pool development. This written scheme of investigation (WSI) details the background to the archaeological condition on planning application 2559/12 and how JNAS will implement the requirements of the Brief for Archaeological Evaluation set by Dr J Tipper of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS). The WSI will also set out how potential risks will be mitigated. This proposed development concerns the construction of a swimming pool within the grounds of the Sir Robert Hitcham School, School Corner, Debenham. A new classroom under the same application did not require an archaeological investigation as ground disturbance was planned to be minimal.

1.2 The evaluation will be carried out to the standards set regionally in the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (EAA Occ. Papers 14, 2003),* locally in *Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation 2011 Ver. 1.2 (Suffolk CC)* and nationally in *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (Institute for Archaeologists 1994, revised 2001)*.

2. Location, Topography & Geology

2.1 Debenham is a small market town in central Suffolk to the north of Ipswich that had, in all probability been established by the late Saxon period at least, and flourished through the medieval period with the market being recorded from 1221. The town is focused on the area around the parish church and the main, north-south aligned, historic high street that runs parallel to the upper part of the River Deben which rises just to the north of the town. The Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School is located at the northern end of the High Street on its western side some 500m north of the church. The school is also located just to the north of the upper reaches of the River Deben at the point where it leaves the line of the High Street to run westwards to its source. Topographically the school has a south-easterly aspect just below the 40m OD contour in an area generally dominated by heavy soils derived from the local glaciofluvial Till deposits with better drained sands and gavels in the valley bottoms.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant Brief 'This application lies in an area of archaeological interest recorded in the County Historic Environment Record, on the edge of the historic town core and to the south of finds scatters of Anglo-Saxon and medieval pottery. There is high potential for important archaeological remains to be defined in this location, given the close proximity to known remains.' A site evaluation by trial trenching is therefore 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 cost.

3.2 Previous archaeological monitoring investigations have been carried out at the school during the construction of an extension (HER- DBH 128) and the construction of the pre-school (HER- DBN 129). These were both small scale developments and in each case deposits of clean subsoil were recorded to a depth of 1m to 1.50m suggesting the accumulation of a substantial layer of hill wash derived during erosion episodes from the area up-slope to the north-west.

4. Aims of the Site Evaluation

4.1 As outlined in section 3 above the archaeological potential of the site relates to its location close to where evidence for past activity is shown by the recovery of artefacts of Anglo-Saxon and medieval date in addition to being on the northern fringe of the historic town core. The aim of the evaluation is therefore to examine the specified sample of the planned pool area under controlled conditions so, if archaeological deposits are revealed, a strategy can be formulated for the possible preservation in situ or, failing that, systematic recording of deposits,

working practices, timetables and orders of cost before any other ground works commence.

5. Methodology

5.1 The proposed development is for a community swimming pool within the grounds of the Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School, School Corner, Debenham.

5.2 The Brief requires 25m of 1.8m wide linear trenching to sample the planned pool site and this will be undertaken using a minimum 1.5m wide toothless ditching bucket on a suitably sized machine operated by an experienced driver. The machine will be closely supervised by an experienced archaeologist as the overburden is removed in shallow spits to the top of any archaeological deposits that are present, where hand investigation will start, or to expose the underlying drift geology which will be further hand cleaned and examined. The spoil will be stored adjacent to the excavated trench with top and sub soil kept separate to allow for subsequent sequential backfilling. No trenches will be backfilled until the relevant officer at SCCAS has been consulted and should any modification to the trench layout be required due to any unforeseen circumstances, such as local services, then SCCAS will be contacted immediately. A metal detector search will be carried out by an experienced operator at all stages of the evaluation. The up cast spoil will also be closely examined for unstratified artefacts as evidence for past activity in rural areas in particular is often as evident via artefact scatters as by undisturbed archaeological deposits.

5.3 Site records will be made under a continuous and unique numbering system of contexts under an overall site HER number obtained from the Suffolk CC HER beforehand. All contexts will be numbered and finds recorded by context. Conventions compatible with the county HER will be used throughout the monitoring. Site plans will be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate and sections at 1:10 or 1:20 (all on plastic drawing film) and related to OS map cover. Sections will be levelled to a datum OD. A photographic record in monochrome film and high resolution digital images will be made of the site and exposed features.

5.4 As necessary and to define archaeological deposits exposed surfaces will be trowelled clean before appropriate hand investigation and recording. Exposed archaeological features will be sampled at standard levels with care being taken to cause minimum disturbance to the site consistent with evaluation to a level adequate to properly form a subsequent mitigation strategy. Significant features such as solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post holes (where fills are

sampled) will have their integrity maintained (and during backfilling). Otherwise for discrete, contained, features, sampling will be at 50%- possibly rising to 100% if requested, and 1m wide sampling slots across linear features. If human burial evidence is revealed the SCCAS Officer will be informed and the clear presumption must be to preserve such remains in situ with minimum disturbance during this evaluation stage. If this is not possible then a Ministry of Justice licence will be obtained prior to full on site recording (total 100% sampling if a cremation deposit) and removal of the remains followed by examination by the relevant specialist and possibly scientific dating. If human remains do have to be recorded, removed from site and reported on then these works will add an additional cost to the evaluation works which may involve radiocarbon dating (in this case the likelihood of revealing human burial is assessed as being low at this location).

5.5 All finds will be collected and processed unless any variation is agreed with the relevant SCCAS Officer. Finds will be assessed by recognised period specialists and their interpretation will form an integral part of the overall report. Finds will be stored according to ICON guidelines with specialist advice/treatment sought for fragile ones. Every effort will be made to gain the deposit of the site finds to the SCCAS Store under their relevant HER code and site numbering for future reference. If this is not possible then the SCCAS Officer will be consulted over any requirements for additional recording (which may have an additional cost implication). Any discard policy will be discussed and agreed with the relevant SCCAS Officer.

5.6 Where appropriate palaeoenvironmental samples will be taken for processing and assessment by a specialist conversant with regional archaeological standards and research agendas in order to inform any further stages in the archaeological programme of works for the PDS. The sampling, processing and assessment will follow the guidelines as detailed in *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis* (Murphy P L & Wiltshire P E J, 1994). In accordance with standard practice bulk samples of 40 litres (or 100% of the deposit where less) will be taken from a representative cross section of archaeological deposits of all periods (respecting defined fills within features), in consultation with the relevant SCCAS Officer (and RSA if the deposits merit more targeted advice) including deposits that cannot be immediately dated by their artefact content, so the state of preservation and full archaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential of the deposits can be assessed and any further sampling, should further field work take place, be systematically planned and fully costed. Archaeological deposits of all types may reveal valuable data through

the processing and assessment of samples with high priority features including the primary fills of pits, wells and cesspits, layers of middens, occupation surfaces and structural features as well as other discrete activity areas, contents of hearths, ovens, and other craft related or industrial structures. In addition more generalised settlement and land use features such as ditches may also yield valuable and informative data when sampling is undertaken systematically as the sum of all the assessment results can add considerably to the interpretation of a site and its landscape. Through an integrated study of all the data recovered from the evaluation the results from the assessment of the samples will be reviewed in terms of:

- What is the quality and state of preservation of charred plant remains, mineralised plant and animal related remains, small vertebrates and industrial residues such as evidence for iron working (contributing to the fullest interpretation of the evaluation results and to aid the planning of any further field work)

- What is the concentration of macro-remains (to inform sampling strategy in any further field work), in particular how might bulk sampling inform the interpretation of burial deposits.

- Can any patterning or similarities/differences be ascertained between deposits from different periods represented on site, similarly can any useful comparisons be made with undated and unphased deposits (to aid interpretation of the evaluation results and help in the study of undated deposits which may otherwise be overlooked and which may via sampling yield material for RC dating)

- Do waterlogged deposits exist on site, if so is there potential for palaeoenvironmental data from preserved insects or pollen and do such deposits contain organic material suitable for RC dating from samples taken as advised by the relevant soil specialist (who would also coordinate the assessment for pollen and insect remains), the RSA will also be consulted in such cases in conjunction with the relevant SCCAS Officer. Incremental column samples will be taken should waterlogged deposits be revealed in close consultation with the evaluation soils specialist with 10-20 litre sample sizes which will be sub-sampled for preserved pollen, insects, diatoms, preserved parasite eggs etc. If waterlogged wood is encountered it will ideal to leave in situ, if it has to be lifted it will be packed while wet in black polythene and stored at 5C until it can be transferred to a specialist for species identification,

assessment and potential for RC dating is undertaken (should RC dating be required in the evaluation on such deposits this incur additional cost and will take time to obtain).

- Deep blanket type deposits resulting from both natural and human derived actions and events can yield valuable land use and palaeoenvironmental information. In particular such deposits can form at the base of a slope, if located in the evaluation the relevant SCCAS Officer and RSA will be consulted over monolith sampling and assessment by the relevant evaluation specialist (the composition of such deposits may give information on past land use in the area through a study of the soil matrix notwithstanding additional data if it is waterlogged)

5.7 An archive of all records and finds will be prepared consistent with the principles in *Management of Archaeological projects* (MAP2, and particularly Appendix 3). This archive will be deposited with the Suffolk CC HER within 3 months of working finishing on site under the relevant HER number and following the guidelines outlined in '*Deposition of Archaeological Archives in Suffolk'* (SCCAS Conservation Team 2008*)*. As necessary the site digital archive will deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) within the agreed allowance for the evaluation and reporting works.

5.8 The evaluation report will be consistent with the principles of MAP2 (particularly Appendix 3.1 & Appendix 4.1) and this report will summarise the methodology employed and relate the archaeological record directly to the aims of this WSI and section 4 above in particular. The report will give an objective account of the deposits and stratigraphy recorded and finds recovered with an inventory of the latter. The report will include an assessment of palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features in relation to both dated and undated features and in terms of patterning across the site.

5.9 Any interpretation of the evaluation will be clearly separated from the objective account of the evaluation and its results and the results will be discussed with the relevant SCCAS Officer at an early stage in the reporting process following reporting on the day of the immediately apparent conclusions. The report will give a clear statement regarding the results of the site evaluation in relation to both the more detailed aims in section 4 above and their significance in the context of local HER records and of the Regional Research Framework (EAA Occ. Papers 3, 8, & 24, 1997, 2000 & 2011). There will be no further work on site until the evaluation results have been assessed and the SCCAS Officer has

considered whether further archaeological works are required. The report may give an opinion regarding the necessity for further evaluation work as appropriate. A draft copy of the report will be presented to SCCAS following completion of the site works. As required the site evaluation will be registered on the OASIS online archaeological record followed by submission of the final draft in .pdf format. Once accepted a bound hard copy will be provided for the County HER, with the relevant OASIS summary detail form and the digital archive on disc. An HER summary sheet will be completed and a summary prepared of any positive results for inclusion in the annual PSIAH round-up. The trench location will be provided for the HER as a .dxf vector plan.

6. Risk Assessment

6.1 Protective clothing will be worn on site (hard hat, high visibility vest/coat, steel-toe cap boots, and ear muffs if required). A safe working method will be agreed with the machine operator for excavation of the trenches and examination of the up cast spoil while at the same time allowing efficient use of plant. Suitable clothing will be available to mitigate against extremes of weather. If carried out in term time the trench will be fenced off by the pool committee or relevant contractor.

6.2 Vehicles will be safely parked away from work areas and lines of access.

6.3 Discussion with the agent/client has already confirmed that there is no known, or likely, ground contamination and the discovery of underground services is unlikely. No overhead services impinge on the trench locations. Gloves and hand wash/wipes be available and any information on possible ground contamination revealed during the evaluation will be passed to finds and environmental specialists.

6.4 A fully charged mobile phone will be carried and a first aid kit will be taken to site.

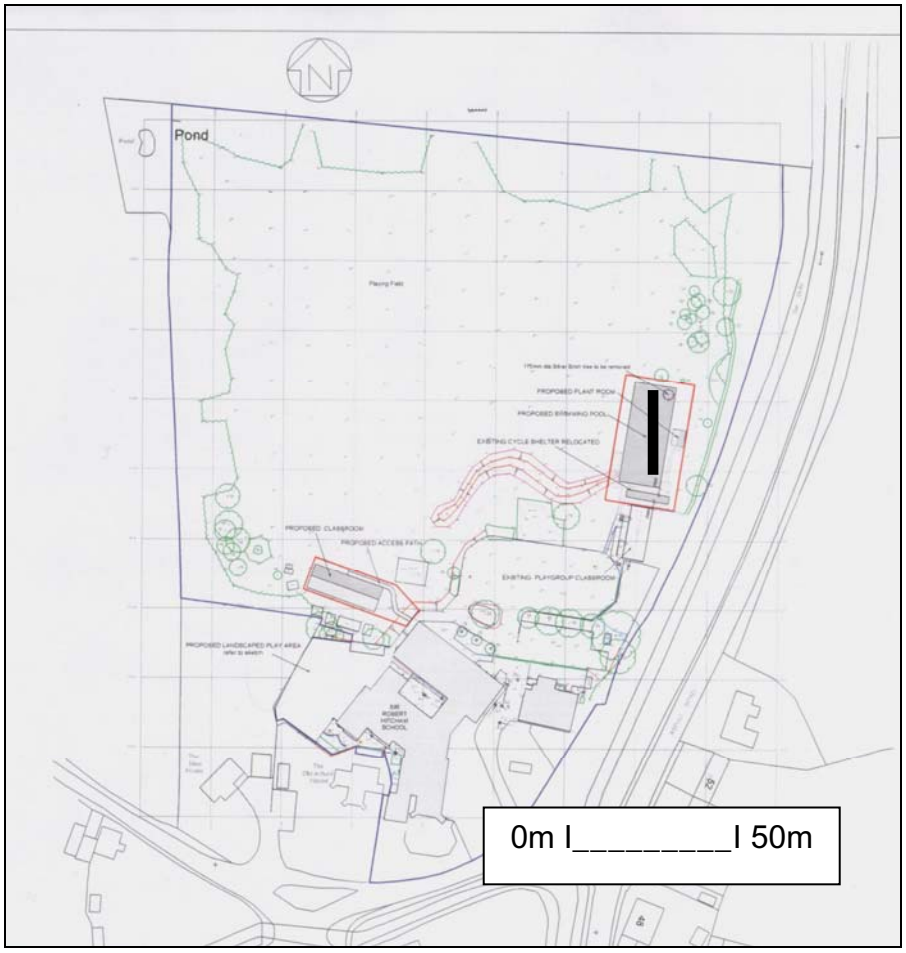
6.5 It is possible that any trench plus excavated feature depth will go below c1/1.3m from the present ground level. If any excavations need to go deeper measures such as stepping in the sides will be employed.

6.6 JNAS holds full insurance cover for archaeological site works from the specialist provider Towergate Risk Solutions covering Public & Products Liability, details can be supplied on request.

7. Specialists

Conservation: Conservation Services

Faunal remains:	J Curl (Sylvanus Archaeology)
Human remains:	S Anderson (Freelance)
Metal detecting:	J Armes (experienced freelance)
Palaeoenvironmental samples:	V Fryer (Freelance)
Soils specialist	R Macphail (UCL)
Pre-historic flint:	S Bates (Freelance)
Pre-historic pottery:	S Percival (Freelance)
Post Roman ceramics & CBM:	S Anderson (Freelance)
Roman period small finds:	N Crummy (Freelance)
Roman period ceramics:	S Benfield (CAT)
Medieval coins:	M Allen (Fitzwilliam Museum)
Post Roman small finds:	JNAS



Proposed location of trial trench (behind existing bike rack)

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

Printable version

OASIS ID: johnnewm1-150608

Project details

Project name	Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School, School Corner, Debenham, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation Report
Short description of the project	Debenham, Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School, School Corner (DB 148, TM 1734 6375) evaluation trenching for a planned community swimming pool within the school grounds revealed two entrances to either a single air raid shelter of World War II date or a pair of shelters. Local residents recalled air raid shelters in this area though their exact location had been lost. In an area with a substantial depth of top and subsoil close to tributary stream of the River Deben called The Gulls no earlier archaeological finds or features were recorded.
Project dates	Start: 20-05-2013 End: 20-05-2013
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	DBN 148 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Community Service 1 - Community Buildings
Monument type	AIR RAID SHELTER Modern
Significant Finds	BRICK Modern
Methods & techniques	'"Sample Trenches"'
Development type	Public building (e.g. school, church, hospital, medical centre, law courts etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK DEBENHAM SIR ROBERT HITCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, SCHOOL CORNER
Postcode	IP14 6PL

Site coordinates	TM 1733 6376 52 1 52 13 42 N 001 10 57 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 39.00m Max: 40.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	John Newman Archaeological Services
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	John Newman
Project director/manager	John Newman
Project supervisor	John Newman
Type of sponsor/funding body	Other Charitable Trust

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Plan","Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Sir Robert Hitcham Primary School, School Corner, Debenham, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newman, J
Date	2013
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Description	Loose bound client report

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