

**Amberfield School, The Street,
Nacton, Suffolk**

Planning application: C13/0617

HER Ref: NAC 111

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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

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Site details for HER

Name: Amberfield School site, The Street, Nacton, Suffolk, IP10 0HJ

Clients: Michael Howard Homes

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: C/13/0617

Development: Conversion & redevelopment (including demolition) to provide 22 dwellings with associated gardens, amenity space, driveways, parking; open space and landscaping (the required evaluation to cover the planned 10 new detached dwellings).

Date of fieldwork: 9 & 10 October, 2013

HER Ref: NAC 111 (evaluation- Workhouse NAC 050)

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-160679

Grid ref: TM 2240 4070

Site area: c6 hectares (full former school grounds), 10 new dwellings (footprints)-
c2,200m²

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Summary: Nacton, former Amberfield School site, The Street (NAC 111, TM 2240 4070) this former school site was originally developed as the Carlford & Colneis Workhouse in the mid 18th century which was closed in 1890 and soon afterwards the structures were extensively altered to form a private house before the school moved to the site in 1952. Evaluation trenching for ten detached new dwellings in the former school grounds revealed no archaeological features or finds of note in seven of the ten excavated trenches with the remaining three trenches containing some evidence of later Post medieval activity with two pits in one of these trenches, a single small pit in another trench and a general scatter of debris within the subsoil in the third. One unstratified sherd of late medieval pottery was also recovered (John Newman Archaeological Services for Michael Howard Homes).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Michael Howard Homes commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological evaluation works at the site of a planned residential development at the former Amberfield School site, The Street, Nacton (see Fig. 1). The evaluation requirements were set out in a Brief set Ms S Poppy, then of Suffolk CC, at the pre-determination stage in the application process and a revised version of the Written Scheme of Investigation by JNAS (see Appendix II) was approved by Dr J Tipper following the approval of the relevant application, C13/0617, for the conversion of the older parts of the structures to 12 dwellings, demolition of recent school structures and the erection of 10 new detached dwellings within the grounds. The evaluation requirement at this site only covers the new build component of the development for the 10 dwellings noted above. An assessment of the historic significance of the standing structures (Edwards, 2103) at the site was carried out as a separate exercise before determination of the planning application.

1.2 Nacton parish is located to the east of Ipswich on the northern side of the Orwell Estuary and the Amberfield School site lies towards the northern boundary of the parish at some distance from the centre of the village (see Fig 1) in an area that was heathland until the mid 18th century (Edwards, 2013, 3). The Seven Hills group of Bronze Age burial mounds is c250m north of the site and a small stream flows in a south-easterly direction some 50m to the south with local soils being generally light and well drained as they are derived from the underlying glaciofluvial sands and gravel common to the area. Topographically the former school grounds slope gently down from the north-west to the south-east with an overall drop in height of 2m from a maximum of just over 26m OD to the lowest area at 24m OD.

1.3 Historically the site is of interest as the older parts of the school preserve parts of the Carlford & Colneis Incorporated Workhouse (HER NAC 050) that was erected in 1756 and which in 1841 was recorded as holding 187 inmates. This is the earliest foundation for a workhouse in Suffolk and it served as such until closure in 1886 followed by its sale in 1902 (ibid. 7) after which parts were demolished and altered as it became Nacton House. The site then remained in residential use until 1952 when the then 14 year old Amberfield School under the Misses Roberts moved from Crofton Road in Ipswich to Nacton as it expanded. Being much altered it is not a listed structure and the Historic Asset Assessment (Edwards, 2013) produced for this planning application, following a thorough examination of the older parts of the main structure, concludes (ibid. 15) that the workhouse was demolished to ground level at least in the early 1900s and what can be seen today represents the remains of a moderately substantial Edwardian country house which has been extensively altered for use as a school. In summary the main parts of the Edwardian country house are seen as being of moderate historic significance and will be retained for the planned conversion works while the more recent school structures are seen as being of low historic significance and will be demolished.

1.3 Examination of the Nacton parish tithe map indicates that the various plots of land around the workhouse were in use as garden and pasture in 1838 with the workhouse burial plot being located some 150m to the west on the opposite side of the road which runs south to Nacton village (see Fig 1 & Appendix IV). The second edition Ordnance Survey map of 1904 then shows the site as the 'Old Workhouse' while the third edition of 1926-8 has the recently constructed 'Nacton House' on the

site of the workhouse. With all of the planned plots for the ten new dwellings (see Fig. 2) being located towards boundaries of the former school grounds they do not impinge on any of the structures mapped as being related to the workhouse or later country house save in the south-east corner where plot 3 (trench 1- see Fig. 2) is close to some outbuildings present on the 1904 and 1926-8 maps.

1.4 Archaeological interest in the new build element of the planned Amberfield development was therefore generated by the history of the site as an 18th and 19th century workhouse. In addition aerial photography has recorded evidence for past field systems in the form of crop marks (HER NAC 099 & 100- see Fig. 1) to the east and south-west of the school grounds in an area where the Seven Hills group of burial mounds evidences significant activity of Bronze Age date and the light soils have attracted settlement and related activities from the pre-historic period to the present.

2. Evaluation methodology

2.1 In order to inform the evaluation the Suffolk Historic Environment Record was consulted with regard to recorded archaeological sites and finds in the area within 500m of the Amberfield School site. The results are shown on Fig. 1 and, as noted in section 1.4 above, include burial mounds of Bronze Age to the north (HER NAC 005, 007, 008, 011, 012 & 013) which are Scheduled Monuments and the site of another possible burial mound site to the west (HER NAC 038) recorded as a crop mark. Also as noted above two areas of past field systems (HER NAC 099 & 100) are recorded as crop marks to the east and south-west respectively. Finally the workhouse site, including its burial ground to the west (see Fig. 1), is recorded (HER NAC 050) and the former Orwell Railway Station (HER NAC 094) completes the known archaeological sites within the search area.

2.2 The footprint areas for the ten new dwellings were trenched in the main to a previously agreed plan (see Fig. 2) with some modification in trench orientation in some cases to avoid trees. In addition trench 1 had to be relocated to the planned drive area to the front of plot 3 as this footprint had a dense cover of medium sized coniferous trees. The trenching was undertaken using a medium sized 360 machine equipped with a 1500mm flat bucket with trenches 1 to 6 and 8 being into soft ground while trenches 7, 9 and 10 were in former car and coach parking areas which had a 60mm layer of tarmac over a 200mm thick sub-base. The machine was under archaeological supervision at all times with any indistinct areas being hand cleaned for better clarity and in total 182m of 1.80m wide trench was opened giving an average of c18m (c32.4m² by area) per new house plot. In the majority of the trenches the top of the exposed natural glaciofluvial deposits was removed to a further depth of 100mm to 200mm to ensure that root disturbance was not obscuring archaeological deposits.

2.3 The sides and base of the trenches (except trench 9 which revealed soft and unstable deposits and was therefore also stopped at 12m in length) and the upcast spoil were examined visually and scanned with a metal detector for any finds and any indistinct areas or potential features were investigated by hand. Site visibility for features and finds is considered to have been good throughout the evaluation which was undertaken over generally dry and sunny days. At the end of the evaluation the location of the trenches were plotted using a GPS on the Leica Smartnet system and

as the evaluation progressed a full photographic record in digital format (see Appendix I) was taken of the trenching works.

3. Results

3.1 In this case the results are most easily summarised as in the table below as seven of the ten trenches revealed very little evidence for past activity at the site (see also Figs. 2 & 3 & Appendix V- Context list):

Trench (Plot)	Orientation	Length (m)	Topsoil depth (mm)	Subsoil depth (mm)	Drift geology	Archaeological/ natural features & finds
1 (3)	Northeast-southwest	20	300	400 mid brown sandy subsoil	Orange sand with flints	Only modern material, no features
2 (4)	Northwest-southeast	20	300	300 (as T1)	As T1	No finds or features
3 (5)	Northeast-southwest	20	400	350 (as T1)	As T1 plus occasional irregular pockets of pale grey sand	No finds or features
4 (6)	Northwest-southeast	20	350	350 (as T1)	As T1	One small pit (0002) of Pmed date
5 (7)	Northwest-southeast	16	350	450 (as T1)	Soft pale yellow sand with flints	At eastern end large pit of mid to late 20 th C date
6 (8)	Northeast-southwest	20	300	300 (as T1)	As T5	No features, few stray brick & tile frags of late Pmed date
7 (9)	Northwest-southeast	14	–	600 (as T1 below 60mm tarmac & 200mm sub-base)	As T1	Two later Pmed pits, 0004 & 0006 , & a few Pmed U/S brick & tile frags
8 (10)	Northwest-southeast	20	200	400-600 (as T1)	As T1	No features, moderate quantity of U/S later Pmed brick & tile frags & few Pmed sherds & 1 Lmed sherd (0001)
9 (2)	Northwest-southeast	12	–	–	Not reached at depth of 1300	Below 60mm tarmac & 200mm sub-base into soft mid brown sand, ?quarry fill with early/mid 20C debris
10 (1)	Northeast-southwest	20	–	300 (as T1 below 60mm tarmac & 200mm sub-base)	Northern half as T1, southern half dark brown heavily iron stained sand with flints	No features or finds
		182 327.60m ²		Overall trench depth 500-550		

Table 1: Trench details

3.2 As indicated in the table above no features or finds of any archaeological significance were revealed in seven of the ten evaluation trenches, except a large pit of mid to late 20th century date at the eastern end of trench 5, with trench depths varying between 600mm and 900mm to the locally occurring natural sandy glaciofluvial deposits save in trench 9 which was taken to a depth of 1300mm into what is likely to be a quarry pit of relatively recent date. With regard to the three trenches on the eastern side of the site trench 4 revealed one small pit (0002) which was 500mm in diameter but only 180mm deep (see Fig. 3). However in the north central part of the site trenches 7 and 8 revealed more evidence for past activity with two large pits (0004 & 0006) in the former and a moderately dense scatter of later Post medieval finds (0001) in the subsoil off the latter. The pit (0004) on the northern side of trench 7 was 1800mm in diameter and 800mm deep with a rounded base while the pit (0006) on the southern side of this trench was 4200mm across and 300mm to 500mm deep (see Fig. 3) with a gently sloping base.

3.3 Apart from the upcast spoil of trench 8 there were very few unstratified finds except occasional small pottery sherds of later 19th and 20th century date and small fragments of later Post medieval brick and tile. A thorough metal detector search was also undertaken of the upcast spoil and within the trenches but only non-ferrous finds of recent date which can be related to the period when the site was in use as a school were recovered.

4. The Finds

4.1 In total twelve sherds of pottery (441g) and one clay pipe stem fragment were recovered during the evaluation, in addition three fragments of stratified roof tile (171g) from features fills were retained and the full finds report by Sue Anderson is included as Appendix III below.

4.2 In summary apart from one abraded late medieval rim sherd all of the pottery finds date from the 18th to 20th period, and therefore span the period from 1756 when the workhouse was established through to its more recent uses, though a few of the wares represented do span the 16th to 18th century period. The small pit (0002) in trench 4 is of 18th to 19th century date while the pits in trench 7 are of probable 18th century date (0006- though the two sherds this is based on are very small) and of 19th to 20th century date (0004). The roof tile fragments from the two pits in trench 7 (0004 & 0006) are also of Post medieval date. The small pottery group from the evaluation is assessed as being typical for an East Anglian site of the Post medieval period and too small in size to merit more detailed study.

5. Conclusion

5.1 With negative results from seven of the ten evaluation trenches and only one small feature (0002) in trench 4 in an area dominated by free draining sands it can be safely concluded that prior to the construction of the workhouse in 1756 the site was heathland and in all likelihood used mainly for grazing sheep. However to the north of the former workhouse trenches 7 and 8 produced evidence for later Post medieval activity in the form of pit digging in the former and the disposal of debris in the latter, which in time has become incorporated within the subsoil. Whether these activities can be directly associated with the workhouse period from 1756 to 1886, its at least partial demolition and alteration shortly after 1902 or use of the site as a

private residence up to 1952 is uncertain. However it is clear from the evaluation trenches that the footprint areas for the planned ten new dwellings will not affect any structural evidence related to the workhouse that formerly occupied the Amberfield school site.

5.2 Based on the evaluation results it is recommended that no further archaeological investigations need to be carried out at the new dwelling footprint areas sampled by trenches 1-6, 9 and 10. At the remaining footprints areas sampled by trenches 7 and 8 (plots 9 & 10) it is suggested that continuous monitoring of ground works would allow useful archaeological information, and in particular further pit groups, to be collected relating to the 18th to earlier 20th century period at the site. Such archaeological data would help in at least one regional research aim and this is the impact of social change on the landscape in the Post medieval period (Medlycott, 2011, 79).

Refs:

- | | | |
|--------------|------|---|
| Edwards, P | 2013 | 'Historic Asset Assessment, Former Amberfield School, Nacton, Suffolk |
| Medlycott, M | 2011 | 'Research & Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England' East Anglian Archaeology Occ.Paper 24 |

Archive- to be deposited with the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service under the HER ref. NAC 111.

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 everyone from Michael Howard Homes and to Sean the machine operator for their close cooperation with regard to this evaluation, to James Armes for his metal detector search, to Colin Pendleton of Suffolk CC for providing HER information, to Sue Anderson for her specialist finds work and to Sue Holden for producing Figs. 2 & 3)

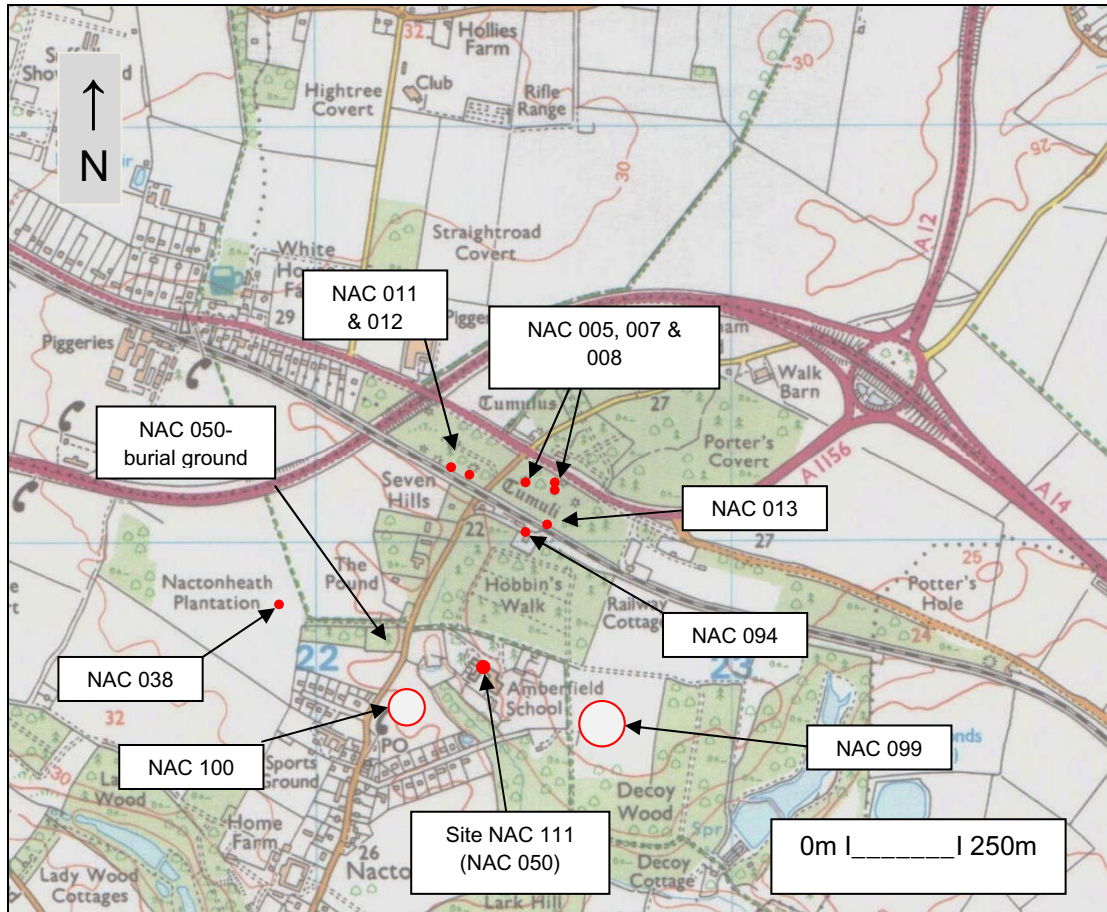


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2008
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Fig. 2: Location of trenches.
 (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2013. All rights reserved LN 100049722)

- footprint of new housing
- parts of existing buildings to be retained

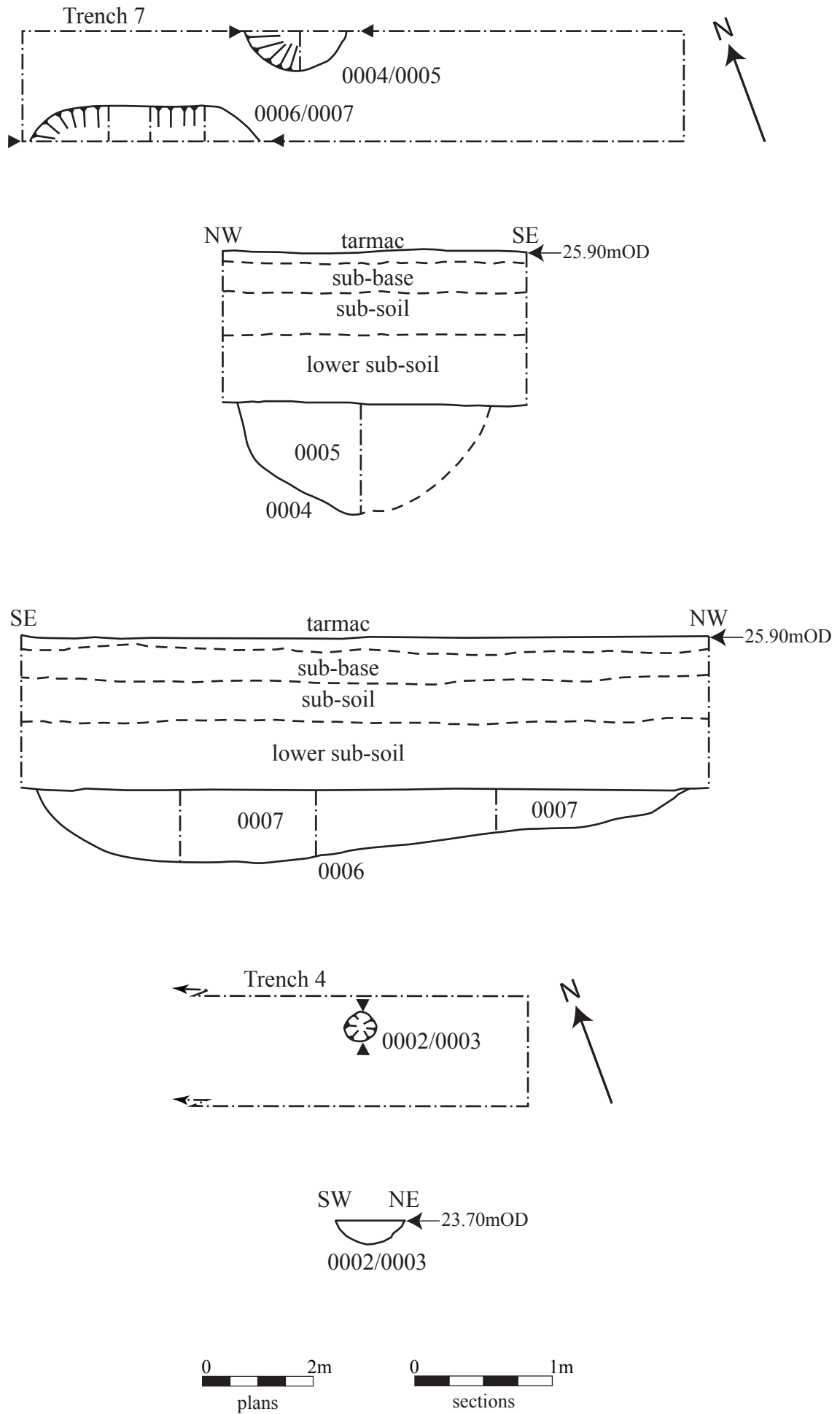


Fig. 3. Plans and sections.

Appendix I- Images



General view from east



Trench 1 from south



Trench 1 deposit profile



Trench 2 from east



Trench 2 deposit profile



Trench 3 from south



Trench 3 deposit profile



Trench 4 from west



Small pit 0002 in T4 from east



Trench 5 from south



Trench 6 from south



Trench 7 from east



Pit 0004 in T7 from south



Pit 0006 in T7 from north



Trench 8 from east



Deposit profile in trench 8



Trench 9 from west



Trench 10 from north



Deposit profile trench10

**Amberfield School, Nacton,
Suffolk**

**Written Scheme of Investigation for
Archaeological Evaluation**

Site details

Name: Amberfield School site, Nacton, Suffolk, IP10 0HJ

Client: Michael Howard Homes

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: C13/0617

Proposed development: Conversion and redevelopment (including demolition) to provide 22 dwellings with associated gardens, amenity space, driveways, parking; open space and landscaping (the required evaluation to cover the planned 10 new detached dwellings).

Proposed date for evaluation: tbc

Brief ref: 2013_01_24_SCCAS_Archaeological Evaluation_Brief_Former Amberfield School

Grid ref: TM 224 406

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1. Introduction
2. Location, Topography & Geology
3. Archaeological & Historical Background
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5. Methodology
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Proposed location of trial trenches

1. Introduction

1.1 Michael Howard Homes have commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological site evaluation for the new build part of a planned residential development. This written scheme of investigation (WSI) details the background to the archaeological condition on planning application C/13/0617 and how JNAS will implement the requirements of the Brief for Archaeological Evaluation set by Ms S Poppy, then of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS). The WSI will also set out how potential risks will be mitigated. This overall proposed development concerns the conversion of the older parts of the former Amberfield School to residential use and the erection of 10 new residential dwellings around the site which is located on the eastern side of The Street at Nacton. The proposals to convert the older parts of the existing building have been the subject of a separate brief and report subject for historic building recording carried out prior to the determination of this application.

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. 1.1 (Suffolk CC)* and nationally in *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (Institute for Archaeologists 1994, revised 2001)*.

2. Location, Topography & Geology

2.1 Nacton parish is located to the east of Ipswich on the northern side of the Orwell Estuary and the Amberfield School site lies towards the northern boundary of the parish at some distance from the centre of the village. The Seven Hills group of Bronze Age burial mounds lies c250m north of the site and a small stream flows in a south-easterly direction some 50m to the south with local soils being generally light and well drained as they are derived from the underlying glaciofluvial sands and gravel common to the area. Historically the site is of interest as the older parts of the school preserve parts of the Woodbridge Union Workhouse which was erected in 1756 and which in 1841 was recorded as holding 187 inmates. This is the earliest foundation for a workhouse in Suffolk and it served as such until closure in 1900 after which parts were demolished and altered as it became Nacton House in residential use until 1952 when the then 14 year old Amberfield School under the Misses Roberts moved from Crofton Road in Ipswich to this site as it expanded. It is not a listed structure. Examination of the Nacton parish tithe map indicates that the various plots of land around the workhouse

were in use as garden and pasture in 1838 with the workhouse burial plot being located some 150m to the west on the opposite side of the road which runs south to Nacton village (see below). From 1952 to the present various structures and extensions were erected for school use but these are of minimal interest in regard to the overall history of the site.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant Brief 'The proposed development lies within an area of archaeological interest recorded in the County Historic Environment Record. The school itself incorporates buildings relating to the Carlford and Colneis Incorporated Hundred Workhouse, constructed in 1756 (HER ref NAC 050), while crop marks of undated field systems have been recorded in fields to the east and southwest of the site (HER refs NAC 099 and NAC 100). There is high potential for encountering archaeological deposits relating to these, and other periods, in this area.'

4. Aims of the Site Evaluation

4.1 As outlined in section 3 above the main archaeological potential relates to the site's location where evidence relating to early activity in the history of the workhouse in addition to possible earlier prehistoric, Roman or medieval settlement related activity may have taken place as evidenced by the recorded crop marks on aerial photographs. The aim of the evaluation is therefore to examine the specified sample of the proposed new residential development area with evaluation trenches 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 should this application receive consent.

5. Methodology

5.1 The proposed development in regard to new build is for ten residential dwellings on what is largely soft ground though areas at the and the northern and western sides of the site include former car parking/bus dropping off areas under tarmac. In general it is planned that existing access drives will be re-used albeit possibly also re-surfaced.

5.2 While the Brief requires a 5% trenched sample of the overall site, which is c1.10ha in area, which equates to 305m of 1.80m wide trench the proposed 10 new dwellings covers a smaller area and the proposed trenching plan below covers each planned footprint with a total trenching

length of some 220m. This will be undertaken using a 1.50m wide toothless ditching bucket on a suitably sized machine operated by an experienced driver with a trench plan as set out below. Where possible trenches will be located in areas of soft ground though plots 1, 2, 8 & 9 are largely over areas of tarmac and care will also be required to avoid damage to trees that will be retained. 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 of 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).

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. 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- if any RC dates are required on should features containing suitable material but no easily dateable finds then this will incur an additional cost.
- 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 (the topographic location and local well drained soils suggest that water-logged deposits are unlikely to be encountered).

- 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 be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) within the agreed allowance for the monitoring 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. In addition the report will review the history of the site and consider the results in relation to the publicly available cartographic sources which have already been examined as a preliminary to this evaluation.

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, which will be searched, 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 if this application receives consent. 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. Once accepted a bound hard copy will be provided for the County HER with a digital version on disc. As required the site evaluation will be registered on the OASIS online archaeological record beforehand followed by submission of the final draft in .pdf format. An HER summary sheet will be completed and a summary prepared of any positive results for inclusion in the annual PSIAH round-up. A vector plan of the trench locations will be provided in .dxf format for inclusion in the County HER.

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.

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

6.3 Discussion with the 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 unlikely 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 Torgate Risk Solutions covering Public & Products Liability, details can be supplied on request.

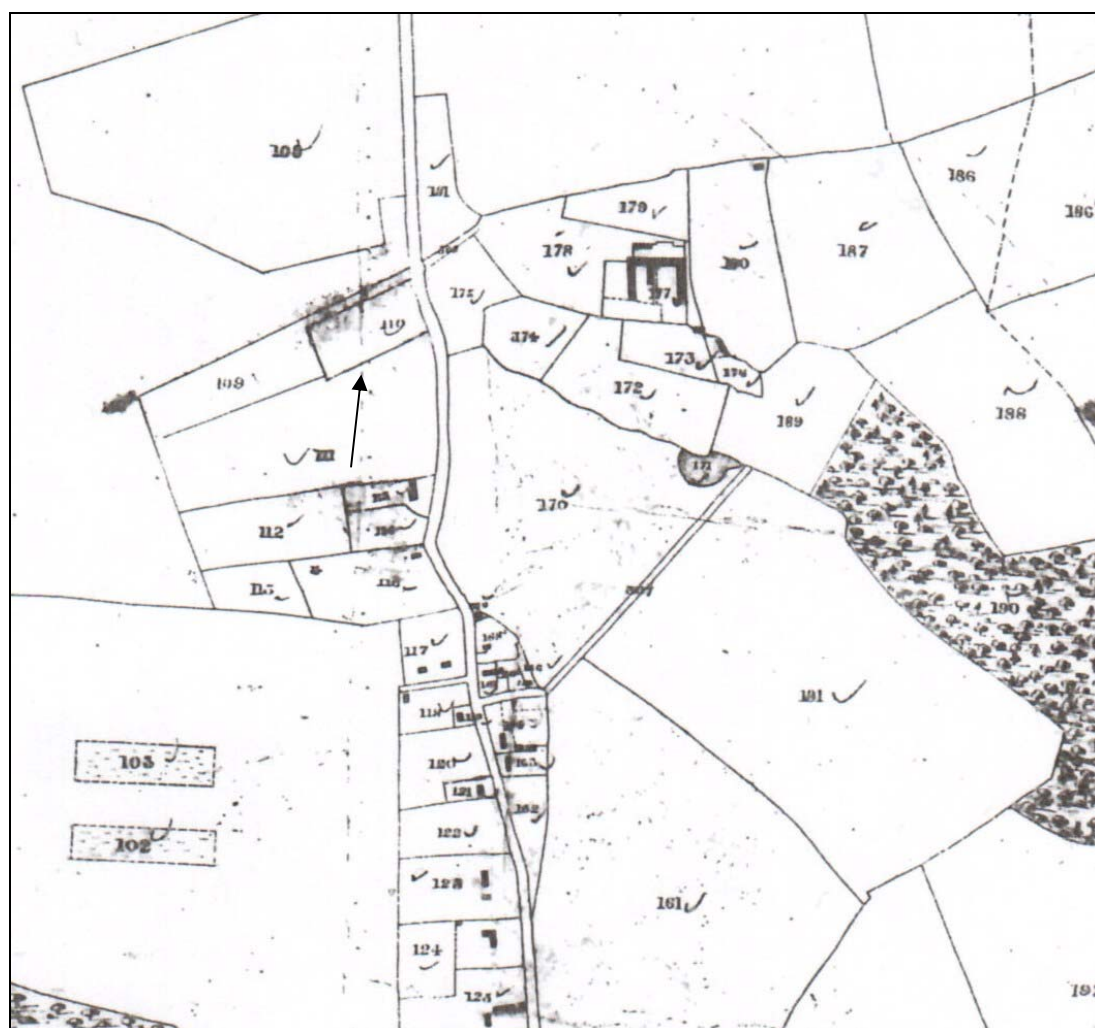
7. Specialists

Conservation:

Conservation Services

John Newman Archaeological 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



Extract from Levington & Nacton tithe map of 1838 (burial plot 110 arrowed)
(Suffolk RO ref. P461/180)



0m | _____ | 50m

Proposed location of trial trenches

Appendix III- The Finds

Former Amberfield School, Nacton (NAC 111): ceramics

Sue Anderson, October 2013.

Pottery

Introduction

Twelve sherds of pottery (441g) were collected from four contexts. A summary catalogue by context is included as Appendix 1 below.

Methodology

Quantification was carried out using sherd count and weight. A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is available in the archive. All fabric codes were assigned from the author's fabric series, which includes East Anglian and Midlands fabrics, as well as imported wares. Local wares and common imports were identified from Jennings (1981). Form terminology follows MPRG (1998). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes. The results were input directly into an Access database.

The assemblage

Table 1 shows the quantification by fabric.

Description	Fabric	Code	No	Wt(g)	Eve	MNV
Late medieval and transitional	LMT	5.10	1	21	0.08	1
Glazed red earthenware	GRE	6.12	6	131	0.25	6
Late post-medieval unglazed earthenwares	LPME	8.01	1	124		1
English Stoneware	ESW	8.20	1	69		1
Late glazed red earthenware	LGRE	8.50	1	4	0.06	1
Late slipped redware	LSRW	8.51	1	5		1
Late blackwares	LBW	8.52	1	87		1
Totals			12	441	0.39	12

Table 1. Pottery by fabric.

Late-medieval

A single abraded rim sherd of a late medieval jar was an unstratified find (0001). The vessel was reduced on both surfaces and had internal brown glaze.

Post-medieval

Glazed red earthenwares were the most frequent wares in this assemblage, found in pit fills 0005 and 0007, and the unstratified group (0001). Three were rim sherds, comprising two dishes (180-200mm diameter) with everted bead rims and a possible bowl (170mm diameter) with a beaded rim. Vessels were generally orange or brown glazed. This group is broadly dated to the 16th-18th centuries.

Modern

A large fragment of an unglazed redware base from pit fill 0005 was recorded as late post-medieval unglazed earthenware, probably a plantpot. Late glazed red earthenwares comprised a blackware (?teapot) base (0001) and a cavetto rim from a bowl (0005). An abraded slipped redware body sherd was found in pit fill 0003. A

large fragment of a stoneware jar or bottle was an unstratified find (0001).

Discussion

Most of the assemblage is of post-medieval or modern date and includes material which was typically produced in East Anglia in the 16th-18th centuries, as well as local and non-local pottery of more recent date. There is nothing unusual in the group and it is too small for further interpretation.

Ceramic building material

Three fragments of CBM (171g) were recovered from pit fills 0005 and 0007 (Appendix 2). The fragments were all pieces of red-firing medium sandy roof tiles of post-medieval date. Two pieces from 0005 were plain flat tiles with traces of lime mortar, and one was possibly a handmade peg tile, the latter suggesting a 17th-century date for pit fill 0007.

Clay pipes

A clay pipe stem fragment was collected from pit fill 0003 (Appendix 3). The fragment had moulded decoration in the form of linear strips of trilobate leaves. The bore measured 1.9–2.1mm which, together with the decoration, suggests an 18th/19th-century date.

References

- Jennings, S., 1981, *Eighteen Centuries of pottery from Norwich*. E. Anglian Archaeol. 13, Norwich Survey/NMS.
- MPRG, 1998, *A Guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic Forms*. Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 1.

Appendix 1: Pottery catalogue

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/g	Spot date
0001	LMT	jar	BD	1	21	15th-16th c.
0001	GRE			1	46	16th-18th c.
0001	GRE	dish	EVBD	1	11	16th-18th c.
0001	LBW			1	87	18th-E.20th c.
0001	ESW			1	69	17th-19th c.
0003	LSRW			1	5	18th-19th c.
0007	GRE			1	4	16th-18th c.
0007	GRE	bowl?	BD	1	6	16th-18th c.
0005	GRE			1	28	16th-18th c.
0005	GRE	dish	EVBD	1	36	16th-18th c.
0005	LGRE	bowl	CAV	1	4	18th-19th c.
0005	LPME	plantpot		1	124	18th-20th c.

Rims: BD – beaded; EVBD – everted beaded; CAV - cavetto

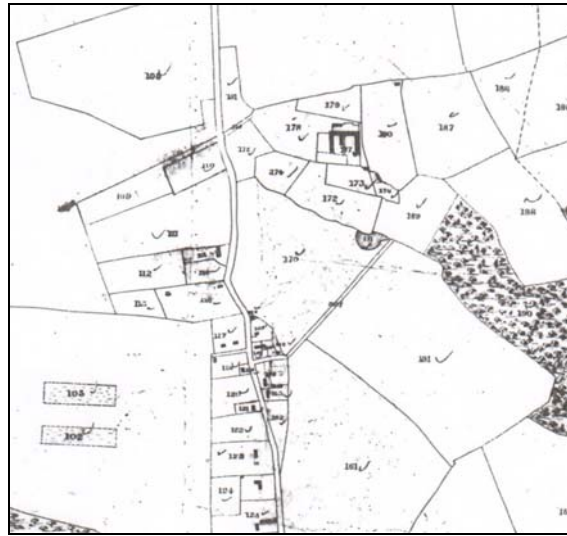
Appendix 2: CBM

context	fabric	form	no	wt/g	abr	peg	mortar	glaze	comments	date
0005	msg	RTP	1	90			msca			pmed
0005	ms	RTP	1	59			thin ms		dark red, overfired	pmed
0007	ms	PAN	1	22					handmade?	pmed

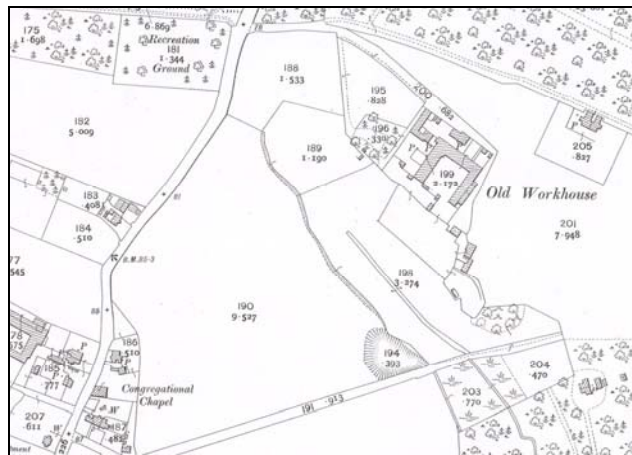
Appendix 3: Clay pipes

Context	Frag	No	Wt (g)	Bore diam	Notes	Date
0003	stem	1	3	2.0-2.1mm	moulded pattern - lines of trilobe leaves	18th/19th c.

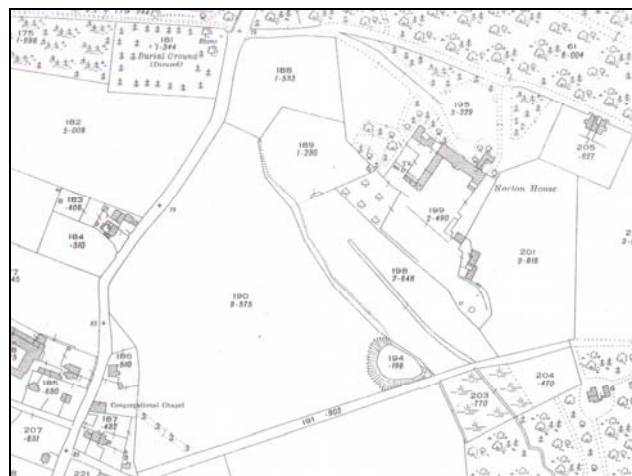
Appendix IV- Historic Maps



Extract from Nacton parish tithe map of 1838 (Suffolk RO ref. P461/180)



Extract from 2nd edition OS map of 1904 (Suffolk RO ref. sheet 83/6)



Extract from 3rd edition of 1926-8 (Suffolk RO ref. sheet 83/6)

Appendix V- Context List

NAC 111

Context	Trench	Finds	Type	Part of	Description	Spotdate
0001	T8	F	U/S	0001	Unstratified finds from spoil of T8	
0002	T4		Pit	0002	Small pit at eastern end of T4, 500mm across x 180mm deep	
0003	T4		Fill	0002	Mid brown sandy fill	18 th -19 th C
0004	T7		Pit	0004	Pit on northern side of T7, 1800mm across x 800mm deep	
0005	T7	F	Fill	0004	Mid brown sandy fill with small coal frags	19 th -20 th C
0006	T7		Pit	0006	Pit on southern side of T7, 4200mm across x 300mm to 500mm deep	
0007	T7	F	Fill	0006	Mid brown sand fill with small pockets of pale brown sand	18 th -19 th C

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OASIS ID: johnnewm1-160679

Project details

Project name	Former Amberfield School, The Street, Nacton, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation Report
Short description of the project	Nacton, former Amberfield School site, The Street (NAC 111, TM 2240 4070) this former school site was originally developed as the Carlford and Colneis Workhouse in the later 18th century which was closed in 1890 and soon afterwards the structures were extensively altered to form a private house before the school moved to the site in 1952. Evaluation trenching for ten detached new dwellings in the former school grounds revealed no archaeological features or finds of note in seven of the ten excavated trenches with the remaining three trenches containing some evidence of later Post medieval activity with two pits in one of these trenches, a single small pit in another trench and a general scatter of debris within the subsoil in the third. One unstratified sherd of late medieval pottery was also recovered.
Project dates	Start: 09-10-2013 End: 10-10-2013
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	NAC 111 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	C/13/0617 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL NACTON FORMER AMBERFIELD SCHOOL, THE STREET
Postcode	IP10 0HJ
Study area	2200.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 2240 4070 52 1 52 01 10 N 001 14 30 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 24.00m Max: 26.00m

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	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Digital Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Paper Contents	"Ceramics"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Former Amberfield School, The Street, Nacton, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor (s)	Newman, J
Date	2013

Issuer or publisher	John Newman Archaeological Services
Place of issue or publication	Henley, Suffolk
Description	Loose bound client report
Entered by	John Newman (johnnewman2@btinternet.com)
Entered on	1 November 2013

OASIS:

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