

Land adjacent to Swiftena
Church Road
Westhorpe Suffolk
Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trench

Grid reference: TM 044 692
Planning Application No: 2806/08
HER no: WTP 013
Oasis No: 109878

Prepared for

Mr Cohen
MPS Developments
Bridge House
Hopton
Diss
IP22 2RF

Prepared by

Dennis Payne BA (Hons): (Dennis Payne Archaeological Services)
Tudor Cottage
Church Road
Westhorpe
Stowmarket
Suffolk, IP14 4SU

16/10/2011

Contents

Non Technical Summary	3
1. Introduction.....	3
Figure1. . Site Location and Description	4
2. Site Location and Geology.....	4
Figure2. Trench location shown in green; scale 1:1250	5
3 Archaeological Background & Historical background.....	6
4. Map Information	7
Figure 3. Hodkinson’s map of Westhorpe, 1783.....	7
.....	8
Figure 4. Ordnance Survey of Westhorpe, 1880’s, showing site location.....	8
Figure 5. Ordnance Survey of Westhorpe, 1950, showing site location.....	9
5. Monitoring of trench	9
5.1 Fieldwork	9
6. Post Excavation.....	10
7. Results.....	10
Figure 6. Section 1. of trench.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
8. Photographs.....	11
Plate 1. Pre-Excavation from the south.....	11
Plate 2. Section of trench	12
Plate 3. Post Excavation of the trench, from the south	13
9. Archive deposition	13
10. Acknowledgements.....	13
Bibliography	14
ONLINE REFERENCES.....	14

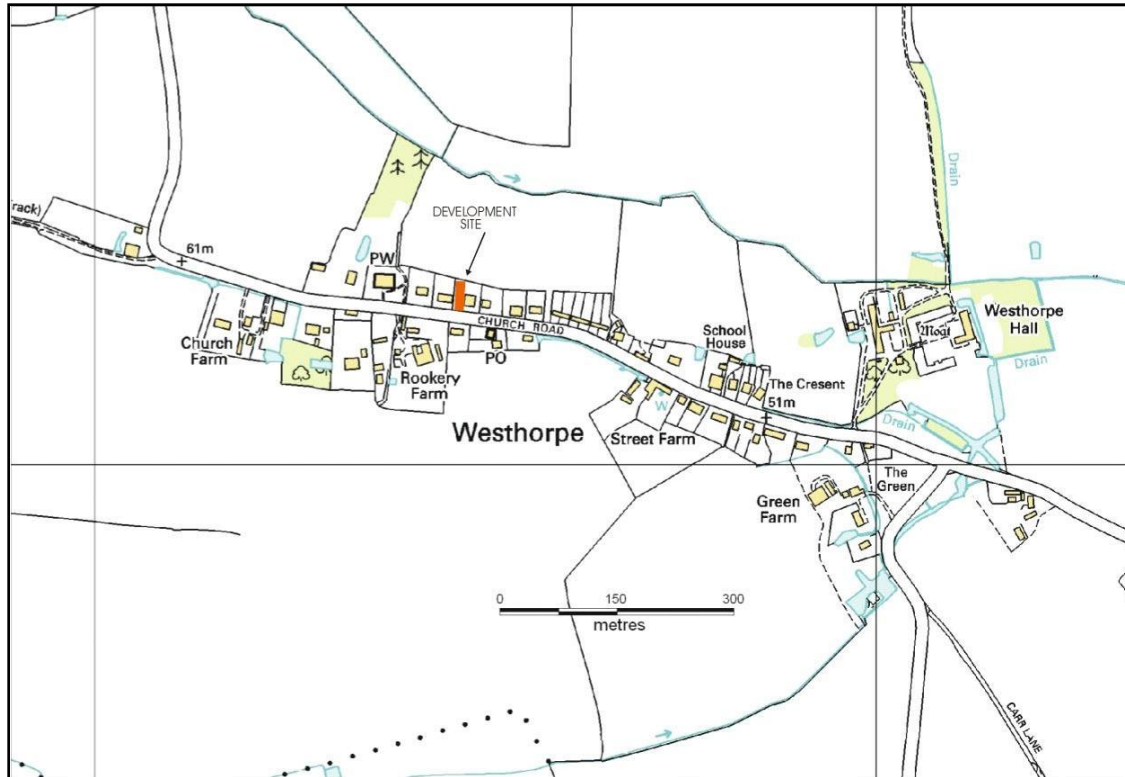
Non Technical Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by trial trench on land adjacent to Swiftena, Church Road, Westhorpe, Suffolk, on the 20th of June, 2011. This was in advance of a development for a new domestic dwelling. One 12m long by 1.8m wide trench was sited, partly to cover the footprint of the proposed development and also to target any potential roadside activity to the immediate south of the development. The evaluation trench produced no archaeology.

1. Introduction

Planning permission was granted for the development of land (erection of a new dwelling) adjacent to Swiftena Church Road Westhorpe by Mid Suffolk District Council. To allow proper investigation and recording of the site which is potentially of archaeological and historic significance condition 5 stated that “ *No development shall take place within any part of the application site until the applicant or developer has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority.*” This permission was subject to a condition requiring archaeological investigation of the site prior to the development commencing. An initial

brief and specification by Jess Tipper, Suffolk County Council Conservation Team required a trenched evaluation of the property in order to inform the potential for archaeological remains present on the site, and enable a suitable mitigation strategy to be developed should archaeological remains be present on the site.



Reproduced from Ordnance Survey License No.01717000

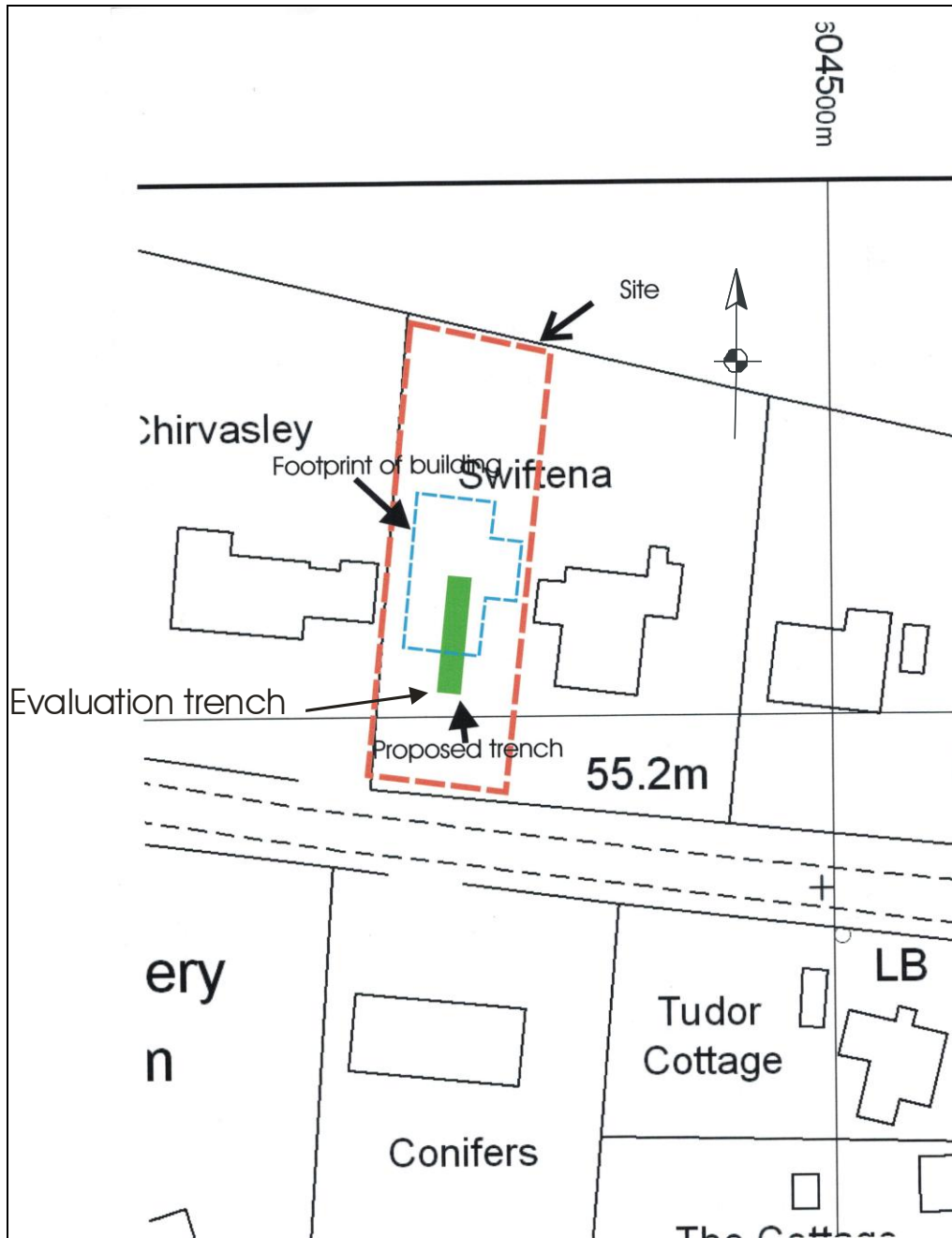
Figure1. . Site Location and Description

Grid Reference: TM 044 692

2. Site Location and Geology

The site is located on the north side of Church Road at c. 55.00 OD. It lies between Chirvasley and Swiftena Church Road, Westhorpe. The site was formerly the property adjoining Swiftena and at one time part of the garden to that property.

The site is situated on deep loam to clay derived from the underlying chalky till of the Ashley Series (BGS 1990).



Reproduced from Ordnance Survey License No.01717000

Figure2. Trench location shown in green; scale 1:1250

3 Archaeological Background & Historical background

Archaeological background

3.1 There have been seven archaeological interventions in Westhorpe. Two of these were at Westhorpe Hall and a survey: (ESF15635, excavated by Thurley S (Event - Intervention. Ref: - Thurley, S); (ESF14545 Survey by OS (Event - Survey); (ESF16085 Excavated by SAU (SB) (Event - Intervention. Ref: SAU (SB); Land adjacent to Cherry Croft, Church Road, Archaeological Monitoring (SAU; 2008) and Archaeological Monitoring and Building Recording at Rookery Farm Barn Church Road, (DPAS, 01/2009). Archaeological Evaluation at 12 Church Road Westhorpe (DPAS; November 2010), followed by: Archaeological Continuous Recording at 12 Church Road, Westhorpe (DPAS; June 2011).

Historical background

3.2 Westhorpe is first recorded as having one manor held by Wulfric Hagni in 1066, belonging to Eudo, son of Spirwic, and by 1086 the manor was held by Geoffrey (Domesday Book Suffolk 34, Morris, J., ed.), presumably in the same ownership as no further information was added at the time. By 1240, Walter de Westhorpe was owner of the manor. The church, St Margaret's, is believed to date from the fourteenth century and is first recorded in 1402. When the Domesday Survey was made, Westhorpe belonged to Gilbert de Blund. Wm. de Ellingham, or Elmham who obtained a grant for a market and fair here in 1371, (which continued until the sixteenth century). It was the manor of Wm. De la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, when he was beheaded in 1450. It was afterward granted to Charles Brandon Duke of Suffolk, who married his third wife, Mary Tudor in 1571. (White, 1844) Westhorpe was the residency of Mary Tudor (1496-1533 – widower of Louis XII of France), daughter of Henry VII and sister of Henry VIII, as mentioned above, who lived at the manor, now known as Westhorpe Hall, owned by Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, whom she married (Carlford, Colneis, Gosford, Hartismere, Copinger, Vol III, 1909). In 1554, Sir Thomas Cornwallis was the owner of Westhorpe Hall. In 1674, Westhorpe was noted as having eighteen inhabited houses – it is not possible to know how large Westhorpe was before this record but, however the size of the village probably remained small in spite of its importance with the royal connection.

4. Map Information



Figure 3. Hodskinson's map of Westhorpe, 1783

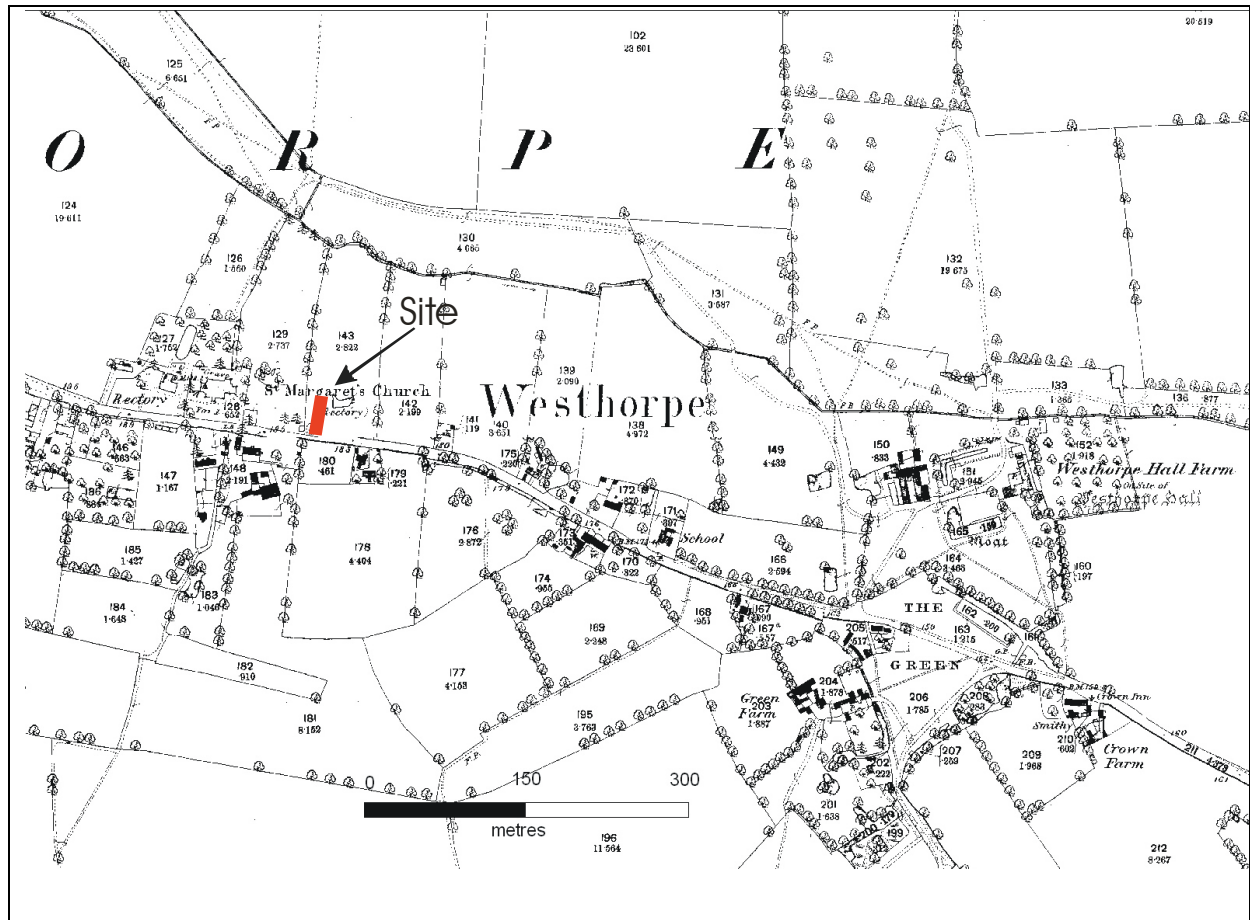


Figure 4. Ordnance Survey of Westhorpe, 1880's, showing site location



Figure 5. Ordnance Survey of Westhorpe, 1950, showing site location

5. Monitoring of trench

5.1 Fieldwork

A plan of the trench was drawn to a scale of 1:50.

A metal detector survey was carried out at all stages of the project.

A full photographic archive was produced consisting of colour slide, monochrome print and digital at 10 million pixels resolution, and will form part of the site record to be curated at Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds.

6. Post Excavation

A site plan was digitised and is included in this report

A paper record has been compiled and will be sent to the Suffolk county Council archive, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds for storage.

7. Results

No features were discovered within the evaluation trench, which is surprising due to the location of this site, close to the church, and on a roadside position.

One 1 metre section was cleaned and recorded.

The Top soil (01) was recorded to a depth of 0.30m; the sub-soil (02) was recorded to a maximum depth of 0.25m.

Archaeological Evaluation of the site has shown that no archaeology will be compromised by the development.

8. Photographs



Plate 1. Pre-Excavation from the south



Plate 2. Section of trench



Plate 3. Post Excavation of the trench, from the south

9. Archive deposition

A digital record and copies of the report can be viewed at The Historic Environment Record office, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds and online at:

<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>.

The finds, photographic, paper and environmental archive are held at the County Store, Suffolk County Council Archaeology, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds.

10. Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Mr Cohen of MPS developments who commissioned and funded the archaeological work.

This report for archaeological evaluation was written by Dennis Payne (DPAS), who also managed the project and carried out the field-work.

Bibliography

British Geological Survey. 1990 Eye, 190

Carlford, Colneis, Gosford, 1909 Hartismere. Copinger, Vol III

Goult, W., (researcher), 1990, A Survey of Suffolk Parish History (East Suffolk, vol 1, A-H)

White, W, (4th edition), 1884. *History, Gazetteer and Directory of Suffolk*, Sheffield.

ONLINE REFERENCES

PastScapes <http://www.pastscape.org/homepage/index.htm>