Archaeological Monitoring at Burlington House Cavendish Road Clare Suffolk

(Interim report for Plot 3)

Grid reference: TL 770 454 Planning Application No: DC/16/1725/FU HER no: CLA 089 Event No. ESF 25077 Oasis No.: 269868 Her Inv. No. 9194392

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Summary

Following an evaluation at Burlington House, carried out in December 2016, monitoring of the groundworks was requested by the SCCA/CT; this report presents the findings from plot 3 and the detached garage.

Archaeological monitoring was carried out on Plot 3 (tr 2), including a detached garage (tr 1), of 3 plots in total for the development of three dwellings at Burlington House Cavendish Road Clare Suffolk. Due to the protracted timescale of this project, each plot will receive an interim report on the findings as the work progresses. The work was carried out in response to an archaeological brief written by Abby Antrobus of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services Conservation Team, dated 16th of November 2016.

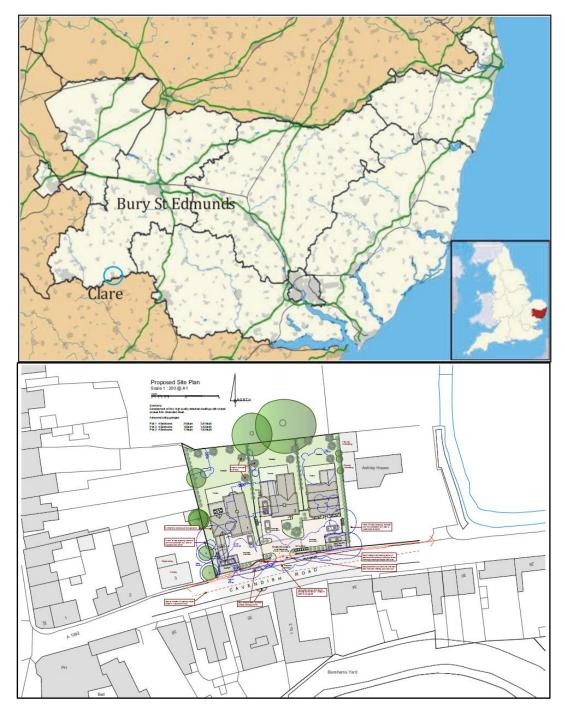
The footings trench for the Garage (tr 1) revealed made-up ground to a depth of 1.10m, shallowing out towards the road and was interpreted as an occupation layer following late Saxon - medieval quarrying on the site. By the road's edge a small pit was recorded of uncertain date.

The footings for trench 2 (plot 3), revealed a similar deposit to the garage, bottoming out at 1.60m, being the maximum depth (from the surface) of the quarrying , also of Late Saxon-early medieval date. The possible cut of the quarrying pit of Late saxon to medieval date was also noted in a one metre section.

1. Site Geology Location and Description

Grid Reference: TL 992 692

1.1 The superficial geology of the site is clayey sands and gravels, common through much of Clare where the rivers have cut through the heavy boulder clay (BGS: 206; 1990).



Ordnance Survey, licence No. 100047655

Figure 1. Location of Clare and Block plan of site

1.2 The site is located at Burlington House Cavendish Road Clare Suffolk. The proposed development lies on the north side of Cavendish road and adjacent to the earthwork of Clare Castle (HER: CLA 008). Located on the eastern side of the town of Clare a through route from Long Melford. It is just within the conservation area and probably what was, and still is, the original town boundary.

2. Planning Background

The planning application No. DC/16/1725/FU was granted by St Edmundsbury Borough Council, for the erection of three new dwellings and garages on land at Burlington House Cavendish Road Clare.

In order to ensure that satisfactory arrangements are made for the investigation, retrieval and recording of any possible archaeological remains on the site and to comply with Policy of the Council's Local Plan, the condition for No's 17 & 18 states: "*No development shall take place within the application site until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority.*

Reason: "To safeguard archaeological assets within the approved development boundary from impacts relating to any groundworks associated with the development scheme and to ensure the proper and timely investigation, recording, reporting and presentation of archaeological assets affected by this development.

This condition is required to be agreed prior to the commencement of any development to ensure matters of archaeological importance are preserved and secured early to ensure avoidance of damage or lost due to the development and/or its construction. If agreement was sought at any later stage there is an unacceptable risk of lost and damage to archaeological and historic assets." (MSDC Decision Notice)

This condition is in accordance with the National Planning and Policy Framework (NPPF, DCLD 2012) which replaces Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS5, DCLG 2010).

3. Archaeological and Historical Background

3.1 Archaeological Background

The SCCA/CT brief states that: The proposed development site is of high archaeological potential, within the historic core of Clare as outlined in the County Historic Environment Record (CLA 008). It lies opposite the castle, on a historic road. There is particular potential for archaeological remains on the site, relating to the development of the town from its earliest days. The proposed works would cause ground disturbance with the potential to damage any archaeological deposits that exist.(SCCA/CT Brief, 2016).

3.2 Archaeological Monuments

Fifty six records are held by the Suffolk County Council Historic Environment records, within a 500m search radius of the site.

Of relevance to the current proposal and in closer proximity to the proposal are four records: to the immediate west of the site is a recorded Quaker burial ground (CLA 049), which originates in the mid seventeenth century with its last known usage in the nineteenth century, the burial ground is defined by a wall in the ground of No. 3 Cavendish Road (the neighbouring property), its extent therefore should be within that property, but its original extent is not clear. Clare Castle (HER: CLA 008) is sited across the road and to the south of the development and its outer bailey extends to the rear of the properties that border Cavendish Road. Close to the junction with Church Street, medieval and Post-medieval pits and features were found during monitoring of ground-works (CLA 072).

3.3 Archaeological Interventions

Clare has received a great deal of attention as attested by the 35 entries from the Historic Environment Records for the town. An archaeological evaluation and building survey: Clare Priory Church recorded foundations for the development of the Priory church (HER: ESF 21220); at Larks Malting Lane, the groundworks for the present project revealed two quarry pits of uncertain date. The garden to the east appears to have remained relatively undisturbed. No other archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were encountered (ESF 21682). A watching brief in 22 Bridewell Street was conducted for Mr Jack Gemmill of 22 Bridewell Street, Clare, Suffolk, during construction of an extension to his property at the aforementioned address. The property backs directly onto Clare Camp, a Scheduled Monument, and work on the site indicated that this and the adjacent houses had actually been built over the outermost defensive bank of the site and a backfilled defensive ditch (ESF 22283). An archaeological evaluation was carried out in the garden of Richmond House, 20 Nethergate Street, Clare as part of a planning condition on application SE/11/0099. The requirements were set out in a Brief and Specification by Jess Tipper 27 May 2011. The condition required two trial trenches to be dug in order to assess the archaeological potential of the site. The planning application is for the construction of a swimming pool behind the existing range of buildings. The excavation of an evaluation trench and two test pits at Richmond House Clare uncovered at least seven cut features dating between the 12th to 19th centuries. Finds from the site included 25 sherds of medieval pottery dated from the 12th to 14th centuries although the majority of these were found in later contexts. The evaluation has provided evidence for the occupation of Nethergate Street from the medieval period (HER: CLA 071). In Nethergate Street, Occupation spanning the Roman through to Post-medieval periods was recorded.. Roman features included a large ditch and a posthole. A series of medieval pits was recorded in the centre of the site and a single pos-medieval boundary ditch was also identified (ESF 20103).

Other than finds made from the Bronze Age to the Medieval periods (CLA 059), during expansion of Clare Primary school, little evidence so far has come to light from several interventions in and around Clare.

3.4 Historical Background

Prehistoric

A Neolithic flint arrowhead was found in a garden on Bridewell Street. A Neolithic long mortuary enclosure and three Bronze Age barrows were located across the river towards Ashen. Evidence of a barrow together with 200 worked flints were found near Chilton Street. A Bronze Age socketed gouge was unearthed from plough soil on the Common. There are some 24 other pre-Iron Age structures in the parishes around Clare.

An Iron Age pot was found embedded in the river bank, half a mile east of Clare. together with an iron spearhead, they are held in The Ancient House. Iron Age coins have also been found, one from the Belgic Trinovantes tribe. In 2009 during a recent rebuilding programme at Clare Community Primary School, postholes of a late Bronze/Early Iron Age structure were located, with an associated ring ditch. This supports the view that Clare Camp (OS TL768458), at the north end of the town, just behind Bridewell Street) with its double ditches, one of the most impressive of its kind in Suffolk, is from that period; with an area of 2.9 hectares, it is second only to Burgh Castle. The north side is most complete, with an inner rampart 9 ft high and counterscarps 12 and 14 ft high. In 1993 a field survey and magnetometer scan revealed the possibility of entrances on the east and south sides. Clare was on the outer borders of the Trinovantes territory, just south of the Iceni.

Roman

A Roman boundary ditch and posthole have been found just off Nethergate Street; a strap fitting, coins, sepulchral urns and a bronze figurine of Mercury or a dancing boy have been unearthed from around the town. Some Roman brick seems to have ended up in the Parish Church.

Medieval

The name first appears in the Domesday Book as 'Clara'. It possibly derives from the "clear" nature of the Chilton Stream as it flows through the town, but from a Latin word rather than a Celtic one as was previously thought.

In the Domesday Book, it is described as "'Always a market. Now 43 burgesses' – an astonishingly high number, because at the time very few Suffolk towns had any burgesses, let alone 43". It lists 37 acres (15 ha) of meadow, woodland for 12 swine, a mill, 5 arpents of vineyard (an arpent was 4–6 acres) and 400 sheep (Rumble, A., 1986). The manor included Stoke-by-Clare and the hamlet of Chilton Street, totalling 128 households. Improbably it has been suggested that the word claret is derived from Clare and its extensive vineyards. There is a Claret Hall towards Ashen, but that could simply mean 'Little Clare'.

The Domesday Book of 1087 also records that the lands around Clare belonged to a Saxon thane, Aluric (or Aelfric), son of Wisgar (or Withgar) and that he gave them to St John, probably creating in Clare a collegiate church, under Edward the Confessor. William the Conqueror re-granted the land to one of his closest supporters in the Norman Conquest of 1066, Richard Fitz Gilbert of Bienfaite, Count of Brionne, the son of one of his cousins, along with 170 other manors, 95 of them in Suffolk. This huge feudal barony became known as the Honour of Clare. Richard became known as "Richard de Clare" (or "of Clare") after he made the castle of Clare the caput of his feudal barony, that is to say his administrative centre. He also held a large manor in Tonbridge, Kent where he built a motte and bailey castle of a very similar size to Clare Castle. Clare Castle is first recorded in 1090.

His son Gilbert de Clare gave the church in the castle to the Benedictine Bec Abbey in Normandy. Gilbert and his brother were present with Prince Henry when King William II was shot dead by an arrow fired by Walter Tyrell, Gilbert's steward in 1124 Gilbert's son Richard de Clare removed the Benedictines to a new foundation in Stoke-by-Clare, the origin of today's Stoke College..

Gilbert de Clare, 4th Earl of Hertford inherited the title and vast estates of the Earl of Gloucester. It was his son, Richard who brought the Augustinian Friars to Clare to found the mother house in England in 1248.

Late medieval -Post-Medieval

By the Fifteenth century, Clare enjoyed the prosperity of the Wool trade, as can be attested from the number of Late medieval and Tudor houses surviving within the town, although it never gained the high prosperity of the other nearby competing towns of Lavenham and Long Melford.

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4. Cartographic Information

Figure 2. Hodskinson's map of Clare 1783

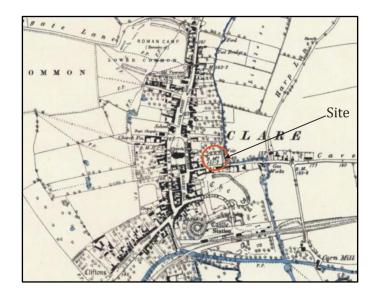


Figure 3. The First Ed. O.S. Map showing Clare (1885)

5. Results

5.1 Fieldwork

The Trenches were drawn to a scale of 1:50; sections of the trenches were drawn to a scale of 1:10 and 1:20.

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

Site plans and sections were digitized to archive standard, reduced versions of which are included in this report.

A digital image archive was produced and will form part of the site record to be curated at Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds.

The continuous archaeological monitoring was carried out using standard practices in archaeology to CIfA standards. The work also considered the eastern counties research frameworks standards as laid down in : Medlycott, M. 2011 *Research and Archaeology Revised: A Revised Framework for the East of England* East Anglian. Archaeology. Occ. Paper. 24

5.2 The Monitoring of Trenches 1 & 2

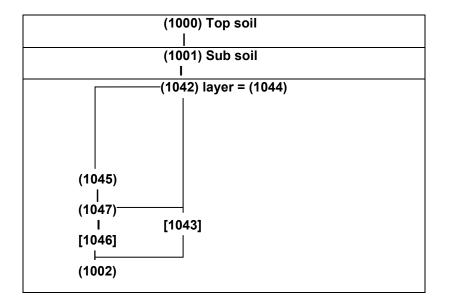
Trench 1, for the garage revealed a made-up deposit of dark earth [1042], which contained pottery dating from the 11th century - 14th century. The layer [1042] was exposed to a depth of 0.60m closest to the roadside and deepened to 0.87m at the end of the section of 3.90m length, on a north-south alignment to Cavendish Road (fig. 6; plt. 6). A south-facing sample section in this trench revealed the deposit at 1.10m depth. The base of the occupation layer was assigned a cut [1043].

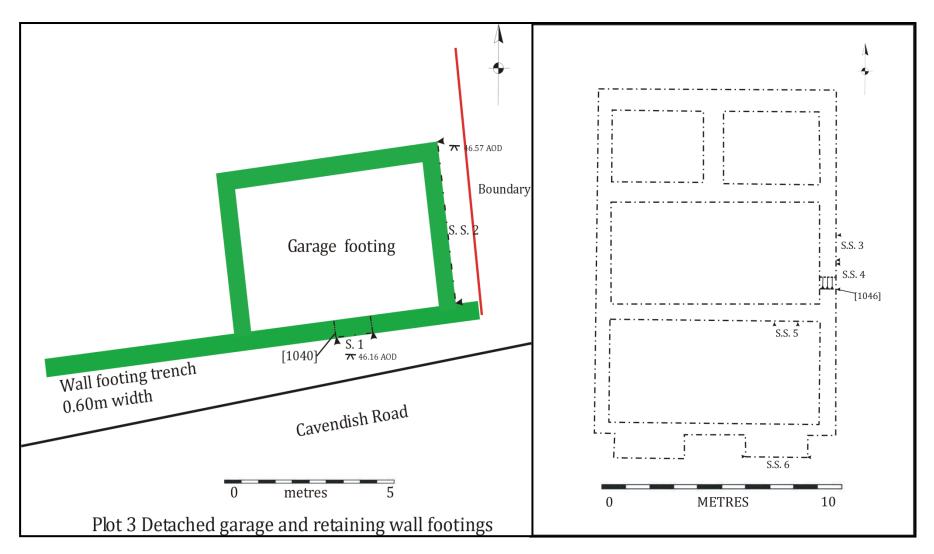
A pit was located in trench 1 for the garage on the east-west section of the footings [1040] (fig.6; plt. 2). It measured 0.70m depth by 1.20m width, with a primary, silty fill (1041) of 0.28m depth and a secondary silty fill (1039) of 0.42m depth; no finds were located in the feature.

Trench 2, revealed the same deposit [1044 = 1042] as in trench 1, with the depth gradually increasing to 1.20m on a north-south alignment. Section 4, revealed a cut [1046] interpreted as the quarry pit edge. which contained a fill of lighter brown silt (1045) representing disuse. A primary layer (1047) was recorded below (1042) of lighter grey-brown silt in an east-west section of the trench (S. 6) for a bay window in Tr 2 (fig, 7; plts 11, 12). depth, 0.42m, length 2.48m.

5.3 Site Matrix

Table 1: Matrix





5.4 Plans

Figure 4. Post-Excavation plan of footings for Garage and retaining wall (left) and house(right) for plot 3

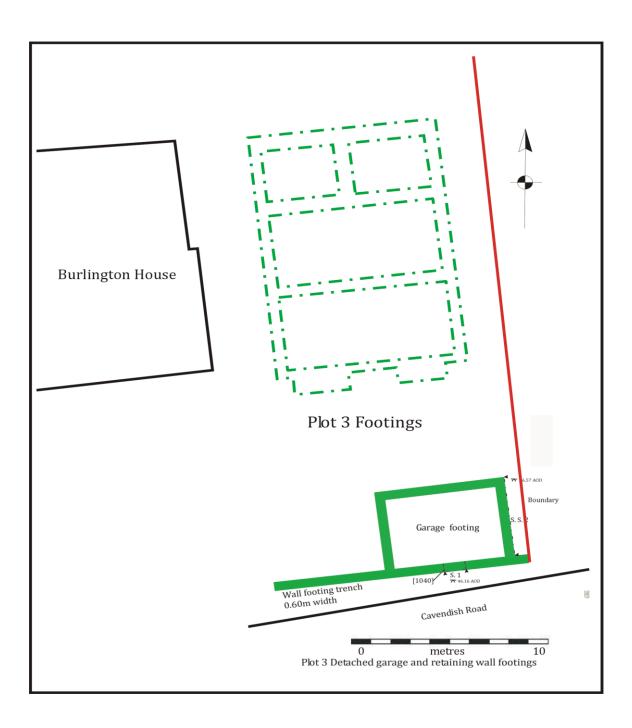


Figure 5. Site post-excavation plan

5.5 Sections

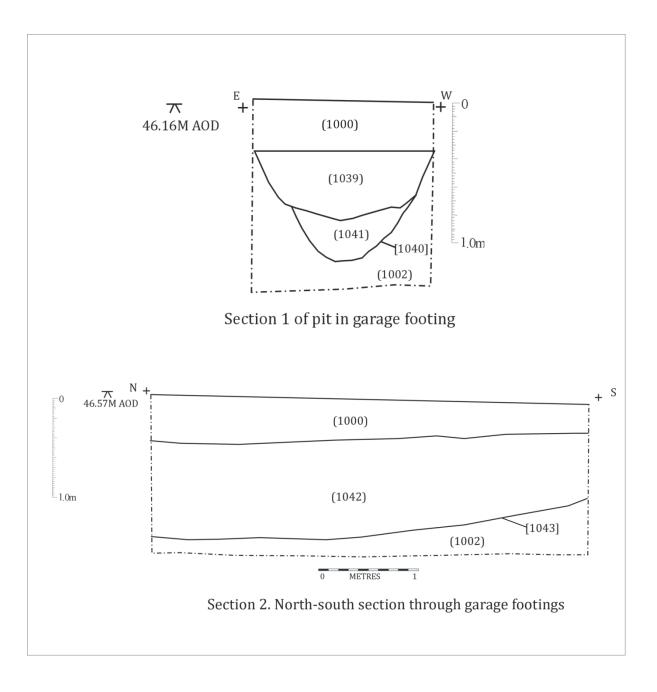


Figure 6. Sections 2 in garage footing (Tr 1); Plot 3, (scale, 1:20)

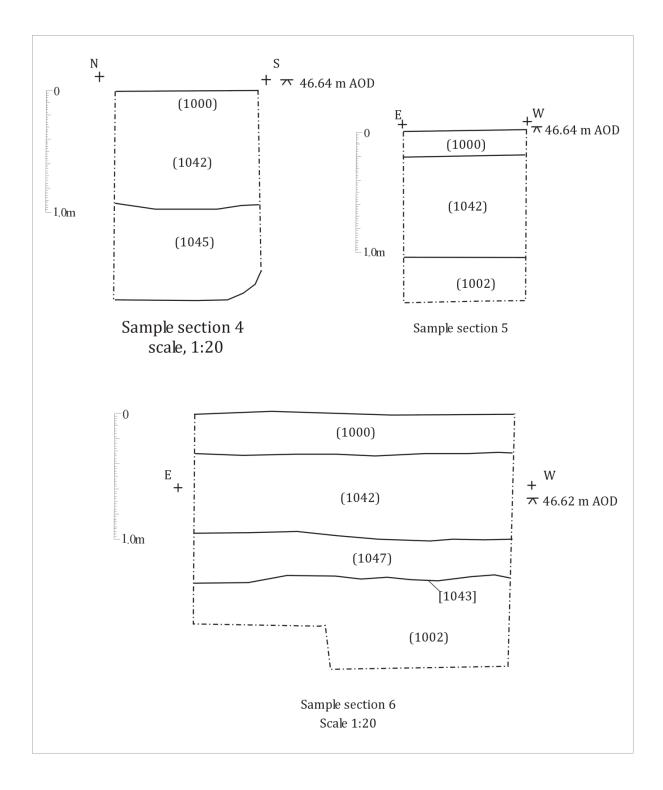


Figure 7. Sections of Plot 3 (house) Scale 1:20

5.6 Table 2: Contexts

Context	Туре	Find Types /comments		
(1000)	Layer	Topsoil Maximum depth: 0.40m	Garden soil	
(1001)	Layer	Subsoil, very dark brown, mixed with occupation level	Soil with mixed debris from occupation	Oyster shell, cbm, flint, stone
(1002)	Layer	Natural drift geology of sandy clays and gravel		
(1039)	Fill	Fill of pit; depth, 0.43m (exposed), width, 1.20m (exposed)	Disuse of pit	n/a
[1040]	Cut	Cut of pit; depth, 0.70m (exposed), width, 1.20m (exposed)	Roadside pit	No finds/undated
(1041)	Fill	Fill of pit; depth0.28m, width, 0.70m	Primary fill	No finds/undated
(1042))	Layer	Section of footings; width 3.95m, depth, 1.25m	Make-up layer of dark earth; occupation layer	Pottery sherds of 11 th -14 th c. ; cbm, oyster shells, common stones
[1043]	Cut	Cut or base of (1042) occupation layer; width 3.95m, depth, 1.25m	Base to truncation of site	n/a
(1044)	Fill	Layer in footings of house, same as (1042), occupation layer; width 1.0m, depth, 1.25m	Make-up layer of dark earth; occupation layer	Oyster shell, possible Roman tile fragment
(1045)	Fill	Fill of quarry pit? Width, 1.18m, depth, 0.72m	Disuse-back-fill of quarry pit	No finds
[1046]	Cut	Cut of quarry pit? 0.20m wide, 0.18m depth	Cut edge for large pit considered to be for extraction, edge just seen in section	n/a
(1047)	Fill	Layer from S. 6, primary build-up below (1042) occupation layer	Initial disturbance of site, a lighter fill than the occupation layer	Primary disturbance of mixed natural and soil

6. Finds Evidence

By Sue Anderson and edited by Richenda Goffin

6.1 Introduction

Eleven sherds of pottery (77g) were recovered from two contexts during monitoring work. Table 1 provides a summary of the quantification by fabric. A summary catalogue by context is included in Appendix 1.

6.2 Pottery

A summary and analysis of the pottery finds are given below .

Description	Fabric	Date range	No	Wt/g	Eve	MNV
Thetford-type ware?	THET	L.9th-11th c.	1	3		1
Medieval coarseware	MCW	L.12th-14th c.	6	40	0.05	6
Essex sandy orange ware	ESOW	13th-15th c.	2	11		2
Hedingham Ware	HFW1	M.12th-M.14th c.	1	9		1
Late post-med unglazed earthenware	LPME	19th-20th c.	1	14		1
Totals			11	77	0.05	11

Table 1. Pottery quantities by fabric

Ten sherds were recovered from layer 1045, comprising all but the Thetford-type ware. Five medieval coarseware body sherds were all in a similar fabric, hard dark grey with medium sandy temper and sparse to moderate mica, some with oxidised margins, similar in appearance to Bury medieval coarsewares. A sixth sherd was an oxidised rim, also in a medium sandy fabric; it was a jar rim in Essex form H2 (13th c.). Two sandy orange wares were also present, one sparsely glazed with a reduced core and the other unglazed. A Hedingham fine ware base fragment was heavily abraded with no surfaces surviving. This context also contained a large piece of plantpot, which may be intrusive given the nature of the fieldwork.

A body sherd of Thetford-type ware (or possibly medieval coarseware) was recovered from layer 1047. It was in a medium sandy grey fabric, similar to the medieval coarsewares in 1045, but with clear throwing lines internally.

6.3 Faunal remains by Richenda Goffin

A summary and analysis of the faunal remains are given below.

A small quantity of animal bone was recovered from layer 1045 (4 fragments weighing 52g). Two fragments of rib from a large mammal such as a cow were identified, together with a scapula belonging to a sheep and the distal end of a sheep metatarsus.

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/g	Spot date	Fabric date range
1045	MCW			4	17		12th-14th c.
1045	MCW			1	13		12th-14th c.
1045	MCW	jar	H2	1	10	E-M13	12th-14th c.
1045	HFW1			1	9		M.12th-E.14th c.
1045	ESOW			1	6		13th-15th c.
1045	ESOW			1	5		13th-15th c.
1045	LPME			1	14		19th-20th c.
1047	THET			1	3		L.9th-11th c.

Appendix 1. Pottery

6.4 Discussion of Material Evidence

Monitoring has been very useful in establishing a start date for the quarrying on this site. A sherd of *Thetford ware*, dating from the 9th-11th centuries was located within (1047) a layer at the base of one of the quarry pits. This layer was interpreted as an initial disturbance layer across the site when works for quarrying began here. This gives a date range, tentatively, for a date range within the late Saxon to Norman periods when the castle was established. This also concurs then with the pits being related to the initial build period of Clare castle.

The remainder of the pottery found and date range of the 12th to 15th centuries was in keeping with the previous results of the pottery findings from the evaluation phase.

Faunal remains found at this site were consistent to the usual food remains found on medieval sites.

7. Interpretation and Discussion

7.1 The Quarry Pits

The archaeological evidence located within the trenches included two large pits, which maybe one large pit (see fig. 5) and are considered to be for quarrying. The extraction for materials for the construction of the castle is a high possibility when considering the date range of the pottery found (11th 14th c.) and the close proximity of the site to the castle. The castle, built shortly after the Norman conquest of England by Richard Fitz Gilbert, and was later improved in stone, also suggesting a protracted use for the quarrying of materials for such improvements. The natural

geology here of sand, gravel and clay could all be used for more permanent forms of structures in the castle or buildings related to it.

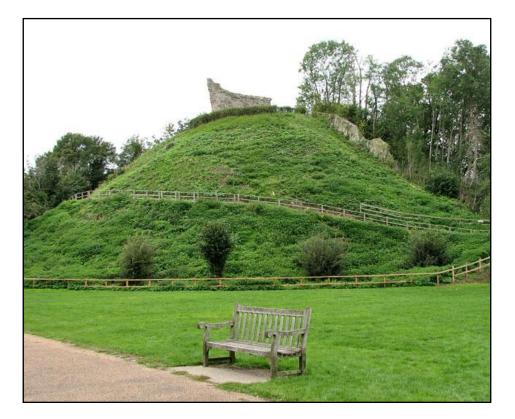


Figure 11. Clare castle Motte, looking towards the town; the site is to the right, 35m from the outer bailey.

Within the sections excavated in both pits a proportionally high quantity of pottery (1kg) was found during the evaluation from these periods suggestion a usage from the time of the castle's establishment in the late 11th century , with the pits continuing to be used for further quarrying of materials, and subsequently a secondary use as refuse pits for the castle and possibly also the town until the 14th century.

The study of medieval pottery production and its source within the East Anglian region is a topic for research, Mellor in '*Medieval Ceramic Studies of England*' states:

The present pottery assemblage found during monitoring concurs with the assemblage collected during the evaluation phase, (Payne, D. Archaeoserv-Evaluation at Burlington House Clare, 2016) with a date range from the 11th century through to the 14th century. These with the sherds found during the evaluation form a group with regional types deposited over some three hundred years, which present a selection of wares available in Clare during this period. Further study of the entire assemblage is considered to be of regional interest and may benefit the current regional understanding of medieval pottery within the East Anglian context in combination with the research agenda as per, Mellor, in '*Medieval Ceramic Studies of England'*. Additionally, the entire group of sherds may contain types used in

domestic and albeit a possible military environment as well, in view of the close proximity to Clare castle.

The question of transfer and deposit of materials into the pits such as pottery waste and other materials such as animal bone can be seen as either accidental or as deliberate deposition. A certain amount of the waste material from these pits would be represented as trample and of passer-by detritus, with the pits being located so close to the main road; castle waste along with town waste could also be expected with continual dumping derived from both sources.

8. Conclusion

Considering the location of this site, directly next to the main road through Clare, it was not surprising to find archaeological evidence for past activities in the town. Moreover, the evidence found, in the form of extraction pits was not surprising either in view of its close proximity to the castle and the town centre. This may represent evidence for the first workings of the castle. If this is true, then the quarrying at Clare would have taken place very early on in the castle's development. Any materials brought in to construct the castle would have required good access, with the construction of the outer bailey forming a barrier with its ditch and bank, one can therefore assume that the mote and bailey were completed first.

Pottery dates have placed the commencement of activity on the site at some time in the 10th-11th centuries, continuing to some point in the 14th-15th century

This evaluation has therefore shown that previous activity on this site was represented by way of quarrying from the Late Saxon to medieval periods and occupation at an uncertain date. Any further work on this site would be advantageous in adding to the knowledge gained from this investigation and particularly to the interesting pottery assemblage data gained from this monitoring and the evaluation.

9. Archive Deposition

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

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

10. Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Stephen Willson who funded the project and commissioned this work.

This report for archaeological evaluation was written by Dennis Payne BA (Hons) ACIfA (Archaeoserv), who also managed the project and carried out the field-work. Rachael Abraham of the SCCA/CT produced the brief for this project.

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Appendix IV: Digital Images



Plate 1. Pre-excavation of site, from the north-west



Plate 2. Pit [1040] in garage footing (Tr 1; S.1) next to road, from the north



Plate 3. Trench 2; S. 4, plot 3, edge (indicated) of quarry pit [1046]



Plate 4. Occupation (made-up) layer (1042), in Tr 1; S. 5. from the north



Plate 5. Trench 1, section of footing showing ocupation (made-up) layer, from the north-west



Plate 6. Footing in Tr 1; S. 2, close to roadside, showing (1042) layer, deepening towards the north of the site away from the road



Plate 7. Section in footing of Tr 1, layer (1042) again decepting away from the roadside, taken from the north



Plate 8. Section in Tr1 foorting, facing the roadside, showing relatively shallower depth to layer (1042)



Plate 9. Section through Tr1 showing shallowest depth of (1042) layer, next to the road



Plate 10. Section through quarry pit edge[1040] and overlying layer (1042) in trench 2 from the north-west



Plate 11. Section 6. in Tr 2. (1045) occupation layer with primary deposit (1047), from the north



Plate 12. Section 6, Tr 2, showing detail of primary deposit (1047)



Plate 13. Section 3; Tr2, Plot 3, of quarry pit [1046] depth (1.60m from surface) from the west



Plate 14. General section shot of Tr 2, (plot 3), showing (1042) layer, from the west