

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

SACIC REPORT No. 2015/074	<i>Parish:</i> Blythburgh
MATRON'S HOUSE, BLYTHBURGH	<i>Planning Application No.:</i> C/06/1062 original
	Event No.: ESF 23201
	<i>OASIS ref:</i> suffolka1-217208
Address: Matron's House, Blyth View, Blythburgh Suffolk	<i>Grid Reference:</i> TM 4402 7633
	<i>Number of site visits:</i> 2
	<i>Date of visits:</i> 10th & 24th August 2015
<i>Nature of the work:</i> Clearance of slab for new concrete raft and excavation of service trench for drain.	
<i>Reason for condition:</i> Proximity to Blythburgh Hospital burial ground (BLB 033/052)	
<i>% of total seen:</i> 30% of slab removed and all of drainage trenches.	
Location Map:	

Results:

The existing slab was removed and the area scraped down to a depth of c.0.35m. Excavation revealed 0.1m of concrete, 0.1m of hard-core and 0.15m of disturbed topsoil with frequent hard-core debris (not bottomed).

The drainage trench observed was of c.0.7m depth with the disturbed topsoil horizon continuing to approximately 0.4m depth, under which was a further spread of building rubble and hard-core. At the base of the trench occasional patches of sandy natural were seen. Approximately half of the drain run was within a previously dug service trench.

No features, finds or deposits of archaeological significance were observed in the monitoring area. Given the thickness of deposits encountered (of 20th century date and undoubtedly contemporary with the construction of the Matron's House) the shallow nature of the excavations were unlikely to be deep enough to disturb any graves if present.



Plate 1. View of the drain run showing thickness of disturbed topsoil over brick rubble and hard-core (behind 1m ranging rod). Some sand natural apparent in base of trench to right of ranging rod. The drain to the right of the frame is within an existing service trench.

Recorded by: Jez Meredith

Date: 19th October 2015