

NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

Report No. 1046

**An Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Excavation at
Wensum Valley Golf Course, Taverham, Norfolk**

41246 TAV

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May 2005

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Location: Beech Avenue, Taverham.
District: Broadland
Grid Ref: TG 148 152
SMR No.: 41246 TAV
Date of work: 15th May 2002

Summary

An archaeological strip, map and sample excavation was undertaken at Beech Avenue, Taverham during redevelopment into a golf course extension.

This work revealed no significant archaeological deposits, finds or features.

1.0 Introduction

(Fig. 1)

An archaeological strip, map and sample excavation was undertaken by the Norfolk Archaeological Unit (NAU) at Beech Avenue, Taverham. This work took place within an area being developed into a golf course. The survey area (Green 11) was approximately 50m by 50m (2500 sq. m) and consisted of a small hill lying at the centre of the development area.

Archaeological survey has not been previously been undertaken in the vicinity. However, the recovery of two (1st century) Roman brooches and two items of medieval metal work by a metal detectorist in 1997 suggests some activity within the local historic environment.

The work was commissioned by Mr Basil Todd of Wensum Valley Hotel Golf and Country Club.

This archaeological strip, map and sample excavation archaeological was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (NLA Ref: 09/04/02/DG). This scheme of work was an amended approach to the original brief that required a 5% trial trench survey. Following further consultation between the client and NLA this brief was deemed to be excessive in light of a reconsideration of the degree to which potential archaeological deposits would be affected.

The objective of this archaeological strip, map and sample excavation was to identify, record and sample excavate any archaeological evidence revealed during the removal of topsoil and and/or overburden during work in the area of Green 11. Any subsurface archaeological features or deposits identified were to be cleaned and sample hand-excavated to relevant county standards. All topsoil was to be removed by the client using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a wide, toothless ditching bucket and under constant supervision by an archaeologist.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector.

Part of the survey area had been stripped by machine prior to the arrival of an archaeologist; the remaining 50% of the topsoil was removed under archaeological supervision. The prior removal of the topsoil did not affect the results of the work as it was clear that no archaeology had been present within the area initially stripped.

2.0 Observations

The topsoil consisted of a shallow (0.10 to 0.15 m) mid brown sandy loam covering an orange and yellow natural sands and gravels with some periglacial features.

Nothing of archaeological significance was noted during the survey.

3.0 Conclusions

Although a number of archaeological spot finds have been identified within the area of this development, this work revealed no features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance.

Acknowledgements

The work was commissioned and funded by Mr Basil Todd. The fieldwork was undertaken by Piers Wallace. The report was illustrated by David Dobson, produced by Julie Curl and edited by Alice Lyons.

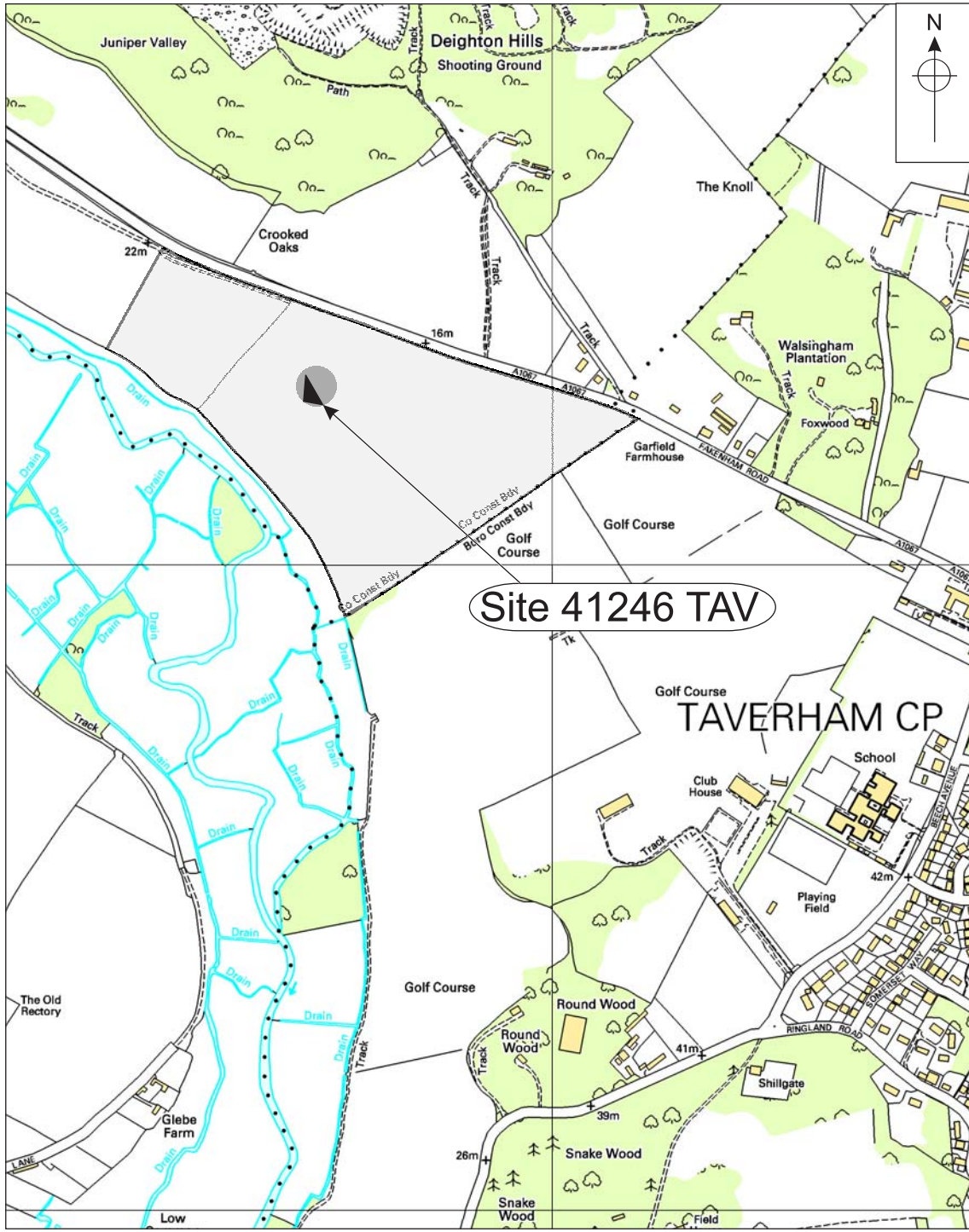


Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:10,000

Local Authority No.100019340

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