

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING OF

**New Golf Shop, Golf Driving Range,
The Osiers, Bury Road,
Stuston
SUS 031**

PLANNING APPLICATION REF: 742/02

N.G. REF: TM 1432 7849

OASIS REF: Suffolkc1- 10382

Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Report No. 2005/147

Funded by: Mr J. Evans

Summary

Undated archaeological features and individual pottery finds of Bronze Age and Roman date had previously been found during the construction of the Golf Driving Range buildings in 2001. Similar features and finds were not detected in the area of the new Golf Shop but much of the area had not been monitored by an archaeologist before it was terraced into the valley side.

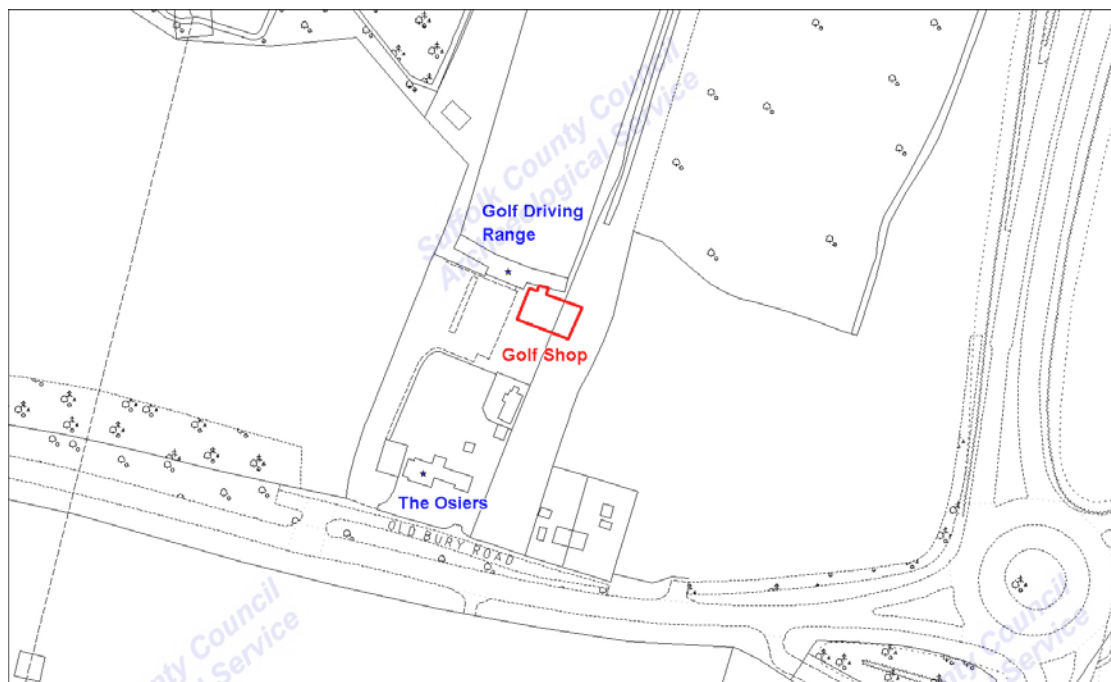


Figure 1: The location of the new Golf Shop in relation to the recently constructed Golf Driving Range building within the grounds of The Osiers

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Introduction

Monitoring of footings for the adjacent golf driving range buildings in 2001 revealed undated features (a ditch, a pit and a hollow) and pottery of Bronze Age and Roman date (S.C.C.A.S. report 2001/114). The site is south-west of an extensive Roman settlement at Scole and is on a raised gravel terrace overlooking the floodplain of the River Waveney in a prime location for early settlement.

The planning permission granted for the building of a new golf shop was conditional upon an archaeological monitoring of ground level reduction and subsequent footings trenches. Unfortunately the Archaeological Service were not informed of the site strip and this was conducted without archaeological monitoring. The footings trenches were observed on the morning of the 23rd September 2005.

Results

The site had previously been stripped of top and subsoil and had been terraced into the slope by c.1m along its southern edge. Most of the site had been reduced to natural sand but had weathered and been tracked over by machinery, so the presence of archaeological deposits and finds could not be checked. Spoil heaps were observed for finds but none found.

The excavated footing trenches were observed. These were all dug into clean natural sand and gravel to a depth of 1.2m maximum. Only modern drains (in the north-west corner of the site) and a ditch containing modern metalwork and concrete (running north-north-east to south-south-west and following the hedge-line that the new structure straddled) were recognised.

No features, deposits or finds of archaeological interest were observed.

Conclusions

The small scatter of archaeological features and finds observed during the construction of the Driving Range buildings did not appear to extend into the area of the new site. Much of the area could not be checked however as the site had been terraced into the valley side without informing the Archaeological Service.

Jezz Meredith, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, September 2005