

PINK COTTAGE, CHURCH ROAD, LITTLE WALDINGFIELD

WFL 019

Archaeological Monitoring Report

Planning Application No: B/05/00036/FHA
Grid reference: TL 9255 4503

Date of Fieldwork: 06/10/05
Funding Body: Mrs A Carse

Introduction

A Planning Application (B/05/00036/FHA) was granted for the construction of an extension to the rear of The Pink Cottage, Church Road, Little Waldingfield (TL 9255 4503). The site lies on level ground at c. 60m AOD. The site is bounded to the north by Church Road; to the east and south by open agricultural land; and to the west by a neighbouring residential property (Paisley House).

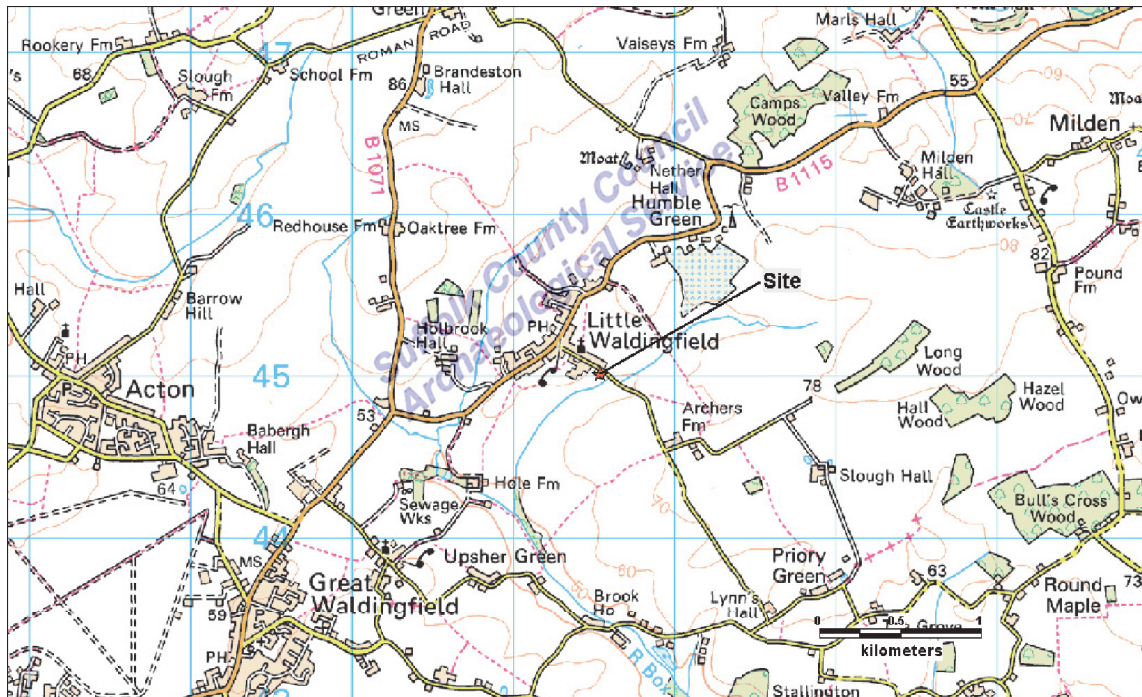


Figure 1. Site location

(© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Suffolk County Council Licence No. 100023395 2005)

No known archaeological sites are known to lie within the proposed development area. However, a number of other sites and findspots are found in the vicinity. These include WFL 009, the findspot of 12-14 Late Roman (early 4th century) coins in the field immediately to the south-west; WFL 001, the remains of a 14th century vaulted crypt beneath The Priory, Church Road c. 200m to the west-north-west; WFL 005, the church of St Lawrence c. 170m to the north-west; and WFL 010, the findspot of two Saxon brooches in the field to the north of the church c. 220m to the north-north-west.

It was therefore decided by Judith Plouviez of the SCCAS Conservation Team that given the proximity of these sites and the invasive nature of the groundworks (strip foundations) Planning Permission should be conditional upon a programme of archaeological monitoring being carried out. The SCCAS Field Team were subsequently commissioned by the architects, Tricker Blackie Associates, on behalf of their client, Mrs A Carse.

Methodology

A single visit was made on the 6th of October 2005 in order to observe the open strip foundation trenches.

The trenches were excavated using a small 360⁰ tracked mechanical excavator (minidigger) fitted with a 0.6m wide toothed bucket. This necessitated brief hand cleaning of the base of the trench and the faces of the upstanding sections in some areas in order to clarify the nature of the deposits.

The site was allocated the SMR number WFL 019 and all recorded deposits were allocated unique OP (observable phenomena) numbers and recorded on *pro forma* context sheets.

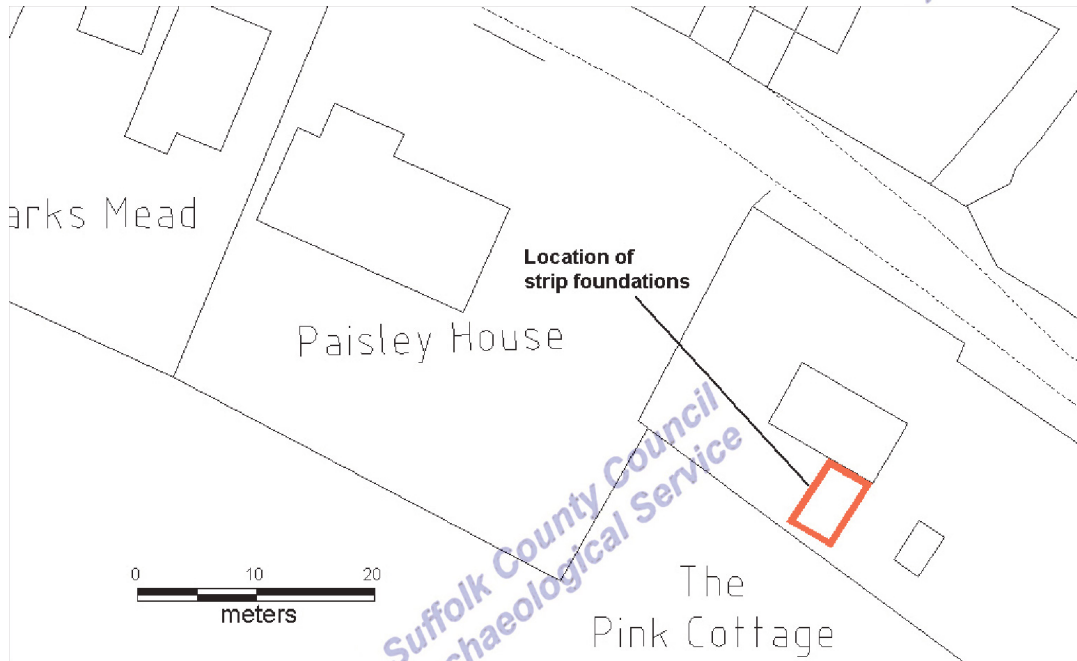


Figure 2. Location of monitored strip foundations

(© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Suffolk County Council Licence No. 100023395 2005)

Results

The following common stratigraphy was observed throughout the excavated area:

Context	Depth	Description
0002	0.00 – 0.65m	Topsoil. A typical 'garden soil' deposit. Described as soft dark grey silty clay with rare medium to large CBM lumps and occasional small to medium sub-angular to sub-rounded flint pebbles.
0003	0.65 – 1.2m+	Natural drift. Stiff mid slightly brownish grey clay with frequent chalk flecks/small nodules and occasional large sub-rounded flint cobbles.

No archaeological finds or features were recorded.

The recorded topsoil deposit was heavily disturbed by previous drainage runs (which were not recorded in detail). There was also significant root disturbance, suggesting scrubland cover at some time prior to the establishment of the Pink Cottage.

Conclusions

Despite the proximity of a significant Roman coin find no archaeological finds or features were observed.

Report No. 2005/157

Rhodri Gardner, for SCCAS, October 2005

OASIS I.D. No. suffolkc1-10766