
SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

**Former WR Refrigeration Ltd.,
Station Road, Woodbridge
(WBG 058)**

**Planning application no. C/05/1738
Archaeological Monitoring Report, 2005/161
OASIS ID No. 10775**

Summary

Woodbridge, Former WR Refrigeration Ltd., Station Road, Woodbridge (TM/273488; WBG 058) An application for an extension to the former WR Refrigeration Ltd. site, Woodbridge, required archaeological monitoring of the groundworks. No archaeological features were revealed by the groundworks, however, a sequence of estuarine or former saltmarsh deposits suggest that the site lies on reclaimed land.

(Linzi Everett for S.C.C.A.S. and Millcard Ltd; report no. 2005/161)

Introduction

Conditional planning consent for an extension to the former WR Refrigeration Ltd. site, Station Road, Woodbridge, required a programme of archaeological monitoring. The site is centred on TM 2731 4878, just below the 5m OD contour and lies within the area of archaeological interest for Woodbridge as defined in the County Sites and Monuments Record. The site has potential to contain evidence of multi-period occupation and possible waterlogged or intertidal deposits.

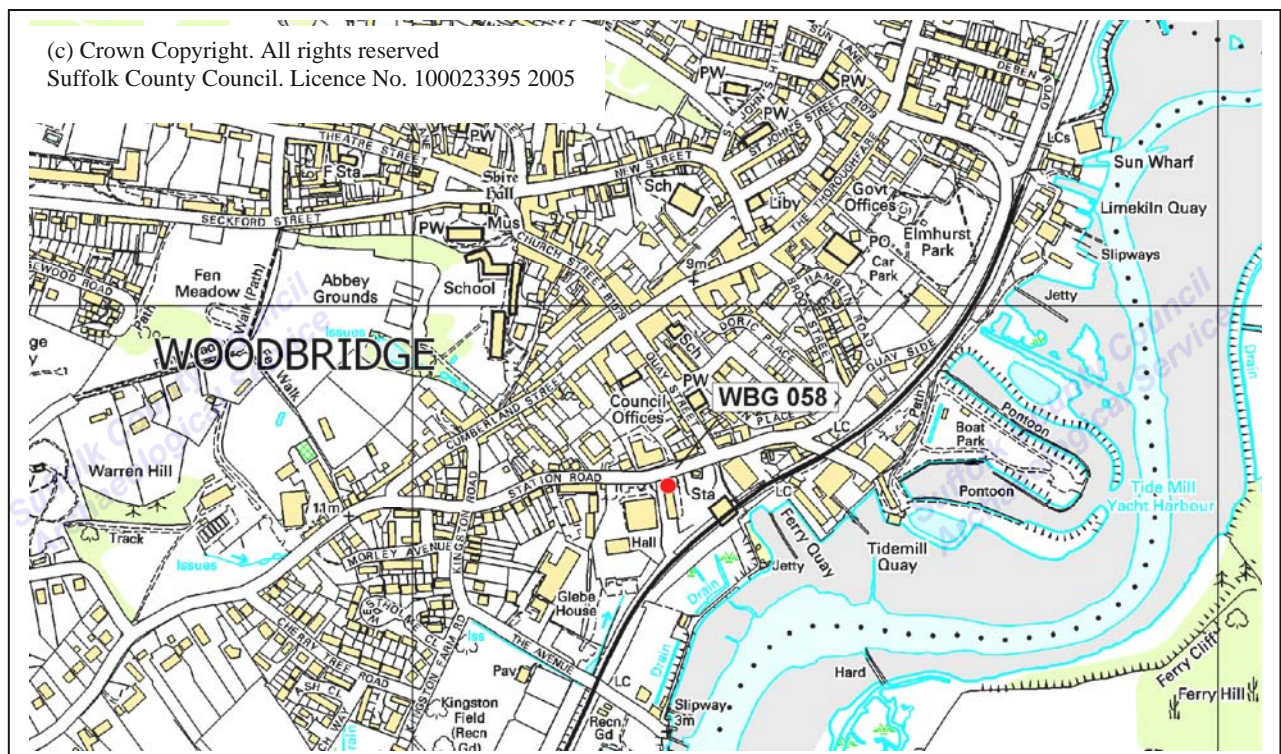


Figure 1: Site location



Figure 2: Location of trenches and features

Methodology

One visit was made to the site by the Field Projects Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS) in order to inspect the machine excavated foundation trenches. The site was recorded under the SMR code WBG 058. A Brief and Specification for the archaeological work was produced by Keith Wade of the SCCAS Conservation Team. The monitoring work took place on October 7th 2005 and was commissioned by Poole and Pattle on behalf of Millcard Ltd. The monitoring archive is held in the county SMR in Bury St. Edmunds.

Results

The monitored area had been reduced by around 450mm and a number of trenches excavated a further 600mm deep. The exposed sections comprised c.300mm tarmac and hardcore sealing a dark brown wet sandy silt with occasional pebble inclusions. This layer was approximately 450mm deep, gradually becoming paler towards its base. Below this layer was a bright orange sandy gravel natural subsoil c.100mm thick overlying a pale grey sandy silt. The bases of the trenches were waterlogged. No archaeological interventions were observed, nor was any artefactual evidence recovered.

Discussion

Whilst no archaeological evidence was observed, either as cut features or artefactual evidence, the deposits revealed were of interest. The various layers appear to be of estuarine origin, or former saltmarsh, suggesting that the site lies on reclaimed land. What damage the tarmac surfacing and ground level reduction has done to shallow archaeological deposits is unknown, if any existed.

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October 2005