

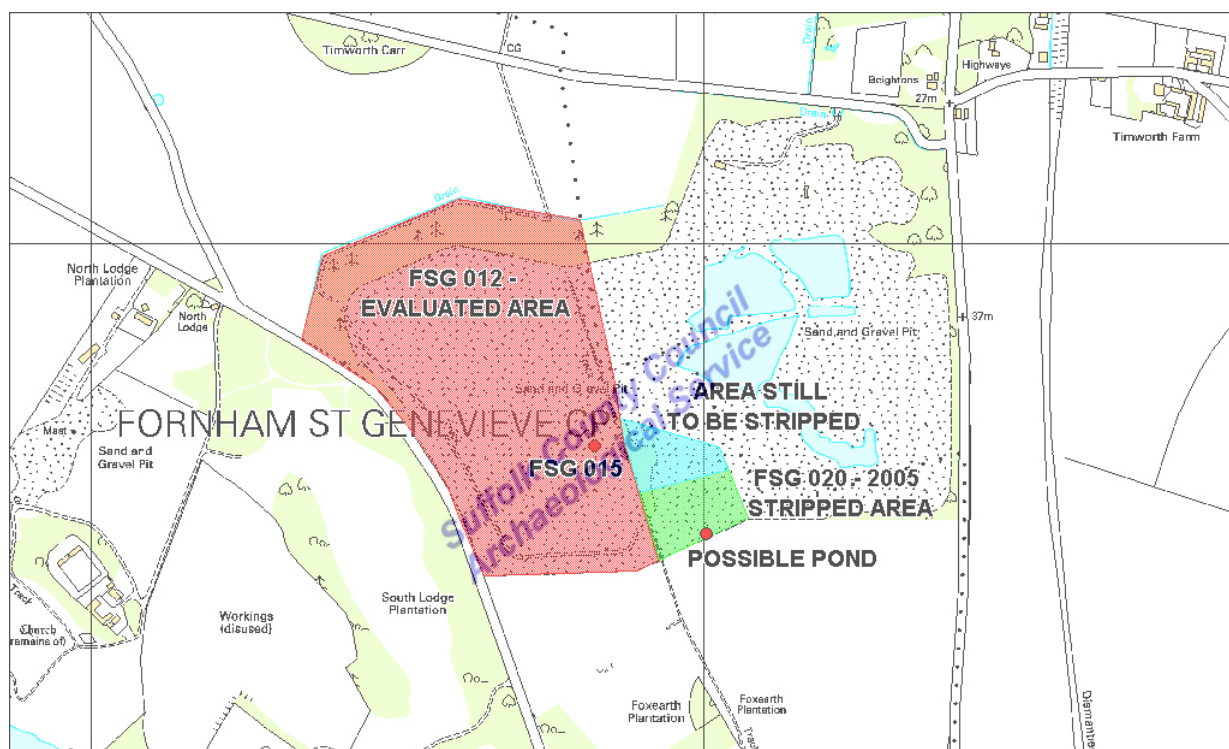
# Archaeological Monitoring Report

## FSG 020

### Ingham Quarry, Fornham St Genevieve

SCCAS Report Number: 2005/128

Oasis reference: Suffolkc1-10836



Planning consent for the next phase of stripping at Ingham Quarry, Fornham St Genevieve (TL 849 687), required a programme of archaeological monitoring to be undertaken.

The site lies 100m to the east of a probable cremation (FSG 015). The area around this cremation was evaluated in October 1996 (FSG 012) where a further five scattered cremations, possibly indicative of dispersed, domestic Iron Age occupation of the site were revealed. Also identified were late Neolithic/Early BA features, and occasional features with residual and intrusive pottery sherds from the Neolithic/Roman/Medieval periods. Features mainly consisted of pits, postholes and occasional slots with an absence of anything structural, perhaps due to the affects of agricultural activity on the land. It was hoped that further archaeological evidence would be revealed in the adjacent plot of land being stripped.

A Brief and Specification for the archaeological work (Appendix 1) was produced by Edward Martin of the Conservation Team, Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (SCCAS), who requested a series of monitoring visits during the stripping to observe the cleaned area and the upcast soil to determine the presence, if any, of archaeological evidence in this area. The project was commissioned by Tarmac Quarry Products (Southern) Ltd.

## **Methodology**

The site was visited during September 2005, by Clare McLannahan of SCCAS Field Team. The development entailed stripping the topsoil using a box scraper. This stripped area was at various stages of excavation during the visits and was inspected for cut features and deposits within it. The spoil was initially retained on site and this was examined for artefacts. The entire area was also metal detected. The SMR reference number FSG 020 was allocated to the site.

## **Results**

The topsoil was c.250mm deep and consisted of dark/mid brown very dry clay sand.

At TL 8500 6852, the lowest point of the stripped area, an area of dark grey clay silt was identified, in the otherwise mid orange brown clay sand natural. This contained modern rubbish such as tin cans and foil wrapping and was filled with silt and so was possibly a former pond, since filled in.

The visibility afforded by the box scraper was limited. The nature of the excavation meant that the cleaned surface was 'smudged', making identification of features very difficult. The entire area was metal detected but despite this, no archaeological features or finds were identified.

## **Conclusion**

No archaeological features or finds were seen during these monitoring visits. It is possible that they exist in the area but the nature of the excavation meant that identification was very difficult. However, a thorough metal detector search should identify significant archaeology and, as there was still none revealed, it is likely that none exists in this area.

Only half the designated area was stripped at this stage; the area to the north is still under trees. This will be excavated within the next year and so the potential for revealing archaeology still exists.

Clare McLannahan  
Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2005