SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

Carlisle House, 11, Chapel Street,
Bildeston
(BIL 016)

Planning application no. B/04/02166 Archaeological Monitoring Report, 2005/163 OASIS ID No. 10883

Summary

Bildeston, Carlisle House, Chapel Street, Bildeston (TL/992494; BIL 016) An application for an extension to Carlisle House, Chapel Street, Bildeston, required archaeological monitoring of the groundworks. The footings revealed a significant depth of disturbance, possibly due to the presence of backfilled cellars. However, any meaningful interpretation was limited by the fact that the trenches had been shuttered to prevent collapse.

(Linzi Everett for S.C.C.A.S. and A.W. Richford; report no. 2005/163)

Introduction

Conditional planning consent for an extension to Carlisle House, Chapel Street, Bildeston, required a programme of archaeological monitoring. The site is centred on TL 9924 4942, at a height of 40m OD and lies within the area of the medieval small town of Bildeston as defined in the County Sites and Monuments Record. The site has potential to contain evidence of earlier occupation.

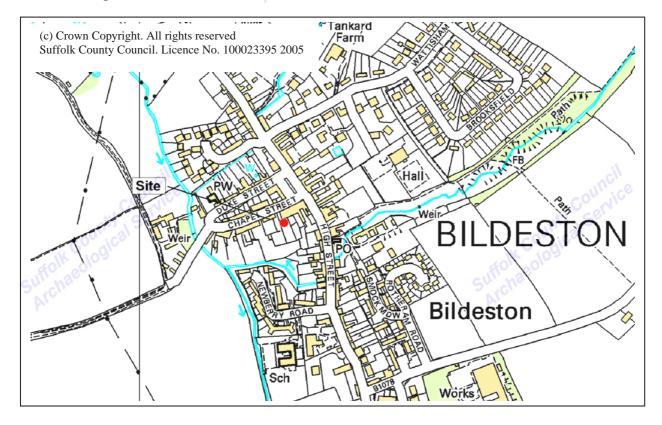


Figure 1: Site location

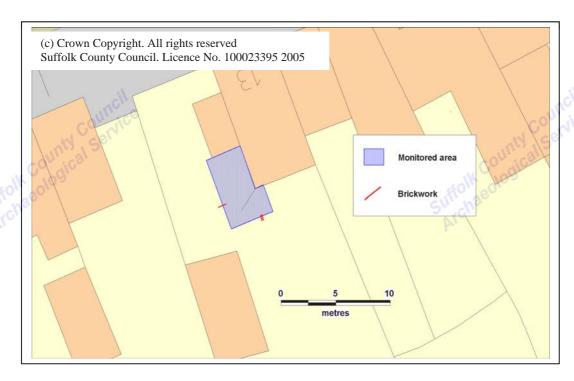


Figure 2: Location of extension

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 BIL 016. The monitoring work took place on October 14th 2005 and was funded by A.W. Richford. The monitoring archive is held in the county SMR in Bury St. Edmunds.

Results

At the time of the visit, the 1.5m deep trenches had been shuttered to prevent collapse of the sides. The few exposed sections showed that the footings were excavated through made-up ground throughout, and this appeared loose and rich in rubble. Brickwork was exposed in two places, as shown on Figure 2, above. In the western footing, the probable remains of a wall were seen in section, measuring c.600mm high. In the southern trench, brickwork measuring c.600mm wide was visible in the base of the trench but was not visible in the sections.

Discussion

What was visible in the sections suggests the presence of backfilled cellars but the limited visibility means that it was almost impossible to make any real sense of the deposits present.

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