

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING OF

**Extension to Haughley Crawford's CEVCP School,
Green Road, Haughley
HGH 031**

PLANNING APPLICATION REF: MS/1917/05

N.G. REF: TM 02638 62345

OASIS REF: suffolkc1- 12156

Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Report No. 2005/201

Funded by: Suffolk County Council (Properties)

**Jezz Meredith, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (Field Team),
October 2006**

Summary

Haughley Crawford's CEVCP School is close to the medieval core of the village and a motte and bailey castle of Norman date. A monitoring for a small shed extension at the school revealed 700mm of deposit including modern playground surfaces and built up layers of likely 19th and 20th century date.

Excavations conducted for an adjacent new classroom in 1999 revealed a deep ditch, likely to be part of the castle fortifications (the outer bailey ditch). It is probable that the modern make-up observed in the shallow trenches for the shed were recent levelling deposits to build up and make flat the playground over what was likely to be a sunken area above the medieval ditch.

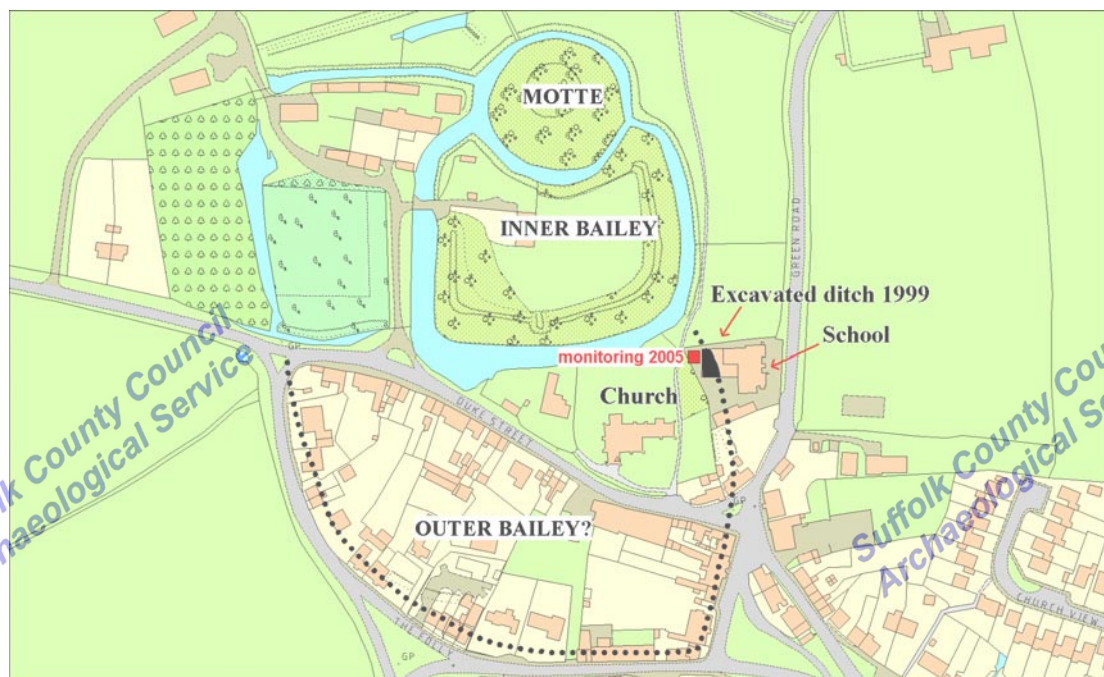


Figure 1: monitoring area in relation to castle features and the 1999 excavations

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Introduction

The location of Haughley Crawford's CEVCP School is on the east side of the village close to the line of an outer bailey ditch revealed by excavation in 1999 (figure 1). The extension to the school (a small shed) was to the west of and adjacent to the earlier excavation (figure 2).

The Planning Authority (Mid Suffolk District Council) has been advised by the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service that an archaeological monitoring be conducted as a condition of planning consent. Given the small area of the extension and the shallow nature of the footings a monitoring condition was considered to be adequate. A continuous monitoring of all below-ground interventions was therefore required to determine if any archaeological deposits and finds could be recognised (Appendix 1).



Figure 2: monitored area in relation to features excavated in 1999

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The site is within the heart of the old village - close to the medieval church and adjacent to a substantial inner bailey wet ditch associated with a motte and bailey castle. The 1999 excavation showed a large, backfilled, north-west to south-east ditch; undoubtedly the line of an outer bailey ditch as suggested by the village street plan (see figure 1). Subsequent settling of the ditch fills resulted in a thick deposit of post-medieval and early modern material dumped here to build up the level of what was to become the playground for the school.

Undisturbed clay natural was revealed along the north-eastern edge of the ditch and within this features of Iron Age and Saxon date were recognised. Although the position for the new shed was going to be sited over the middle of the ditch – and thus likely to be in the deepest area of more recent build-up – there would be a chance to

see later medieval and post-medieval features and to recover residual finds from earlier periods.

Results

The trenches were arranged on three sides of a rectangle c.3m by 2m and were 700mm deep. The top 200mm consisted of modern tarmac and sand base (0002).

Under this and towards the south-west corner of the area was a cut containing modern brick and mortar (0003 – 0005). This modern intrusion was at least 1m in length east to west and had a maximum depth of 500mm.

Below this and for the rest of the trench deposit 0006 was encountered. This layer was mixed dark grey brown silty clay, very compact, with frequent chalk crumbs, moderate charcoal flecks and CBM fragments. All finds were likely to be of post-medieval or later date, probably of the 19th or early 20th centuries.

The Finds

Richenda Goffin, November 2005.

Introduction

Finds were collected from a single context, as shown in the table below.

Context	Pottery		CBM		Animal bone		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g		
0006	1	6	5	426	5	149	1 frag of fe @ 61g	19th C +
Total	1	6	5	426	5	149		

Pottery

A single fragment of pottery was recovered from the 19th – 20th century. It is a small and very abraded fragment of ironstone china, decorated in a blue and white transfer printed ware design similar to Willow pattern.

Ceramic building material

Five fragments of ceramic roof tile were recorded from deposit 0006. All the tiles are made from sandy oxidised unglazed fabrics and are post-medieval in date. The largest fragment has a small nail hole and is made from a hard purple/brown and red fabric, which may be earlier.

Miscellaneous

A large iron nail measuring c115mm in length was recovered.

Animal bone

Five fragments of animal bone from deposit 0006 included a cattle metatarsal bone and part of the mandible of a dog.

Discussion

The dateable artefacts from the monitoring are post-medieval. A single fragment of highly abraded pottery dates to the 19th to 20th century.

Conclusions

The footings for a small extension to Haughley Crawford's CEVCP School encountered a single layer under the tarmac that extended to the base of the trench 500mm below. This deposit contained pottery of 19th or early 20th century date.

The footings were positioned over the middle of an outer bailey ditch for the nearby castle, but were of insufficient depth to encounter any deposits, features or finds earlier than the 19th century.

It is probable that the deep mixed deposit encountered within the footing trenches was dumped there in the modern period to make-up ground that had dropped due to the settling of the underlying ditch fills. It is possible that this had been done as recently as the creation of the playground for the school.

Appendix 1

Outline Archaeological Brief

1. A planning condition of the PPG16, para30 type has been recommended for the planning application.
2. The area is adjacent to detailed archaeological survey which demonstrates that the area lies in the early core of the settlement and to have archaeological potential for Medieval and Saxon occupation. Development takes the form of a new store to the NW of the school.
3. Undertake continuous archaeological monitoring of ground works as they take place; the discretion of the Archaeological Project Officer on the site may be used to determine the extent and methodology of this monitoring once site conditions are determined by the initial works.
4. In the area of the extension : where archaeological levels are exposed by hard surface removal these are to be planned and recorded prior to reduction of ground levels to floor formation levels. Continuous monitoring with contingency for delays for adequate recording is to take place during the digging of footings.
5. Employ the usual recording standards required by SCC Archaeological Service.
6. Create an archive of all records and finds to the usual SCC standard.
7. Provide a report, including an archive report of results, to the usual SCC standards.

If there are any queries on this please let me know.

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