

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2012/062	Parish: Ipswich
22-31 Boss Hall Road IPS 669	Planning Application No.: IP/12/00112/FUL
	HER Event No.: IPS 669
Address: 22-31 Boss Hall Road Ipswich Suffolk	Grid Ref.: TM 14045 45300
	OASIS Ref.: suffolkc1-125068
	Date of excavation: 24th April 2012

Introduction

As a condition of planning consent (IP/12/00112) a small area excavation was required by the County Archaeologist Keith Wade. This excavation (grid reference TM 14045 45300) was within the footprint of a proposed new electrical sub-station associated with the adjacent Federal Warehouse.

The site is located between the Anglo-Saxon cemetery IPS 231 (40m to the north-east) and the Bronze Age burials with ring-ditch IPS 400 (70m to the south-west); see Figure 1.

Figure 1. Location Map

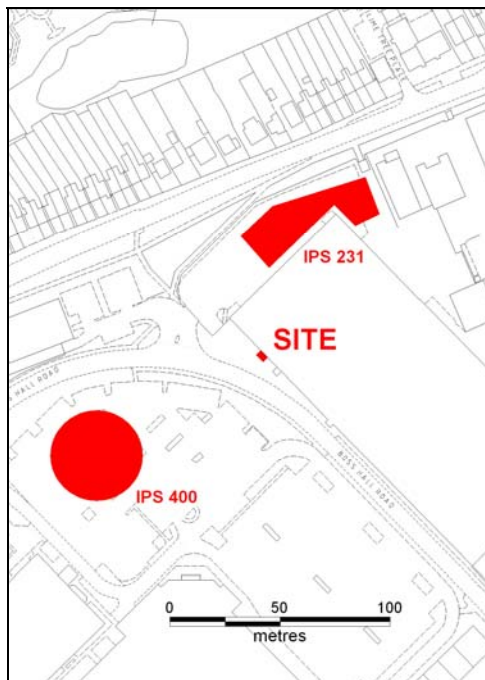
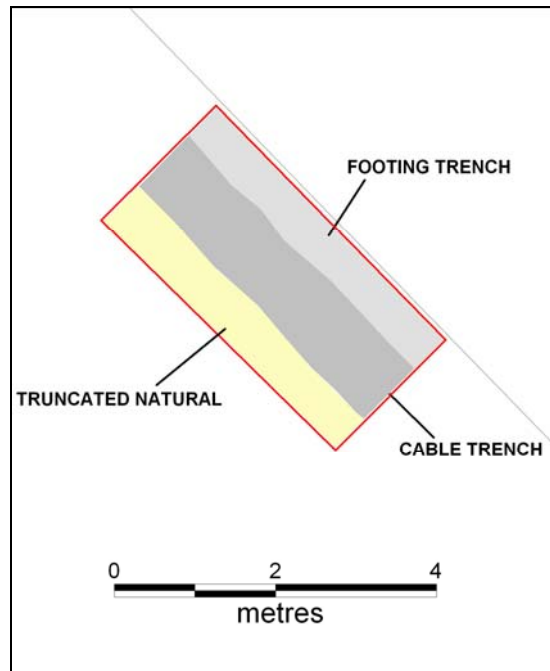


Figure 2. Trench plan



Results

An area of approximately 4m by 2m was opened up by machine to a depth of c.0.5m. The base of the trench revealed a high degree of disturbance, with the central part of the trench taken up by a wide electrical cable trench of c.0.9m width (see Fig. 2). The area immediately adjacent to the Federal Warehouse wall consisted of a footing trench of c.0.5m width. Only along the south-western edge of the trench was yellow sand natural observed, in a strip of c.0.6m width.

Examination of the sections at each end of the trench revealed however that there was sharp contact between the overlying topsoil and the natural. Also the natural was bright yellow in colour with no indication of weathering or animal disturbance suggesting that it had been truncated. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed in the trench and no finds recovered from the spoil.

Conclusions

Despite the site's proximity to significant archaeological deposits in the area, particularly to the Anglo-Saxon cremation and burial cemetery only 40m to the north-east, no features or finds of archaeological significance were observed in the trench.

Much of the base of the trench was disturbed by the footing trench and services associated with the large Federal Warehouse adjacent. A narrow strip of natural sand was uncovered but had been truncated, probably due to recent landscaping associated with the building of the warehouse and/or the layout of the road. Deep features (such as graves) might however have survived at this level but none were seen. The trench area was too small and too disturbed to confirm that the Anglo-Saxon cemetery did not extend into this area.

Recorded by: Jezz Meredith

Date: 4th May 2012