

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

Base Theatre Site RAF Mildenhall. MNL 565

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING OF GROUNDWORKS AT THE BASE
THEATRE RAF MILDENHALL.

Planning Application No. F/2003/0341/GOV
NGR: TL 682 778
OASIS Ref. Suffolkc1-14968

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Summary

An archaeological monitoring of footing trenches at the base theatre RAF Mildenhall showed no evidence of any archaeological features.

Introduction

Groundworks associated with the extension and upgrading of the base theatre on RAF Mildenhall were monitored beginning on the 9th march 2004. The work was carried out to a Brief and Specification issued by Judith Plouviez (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team) to fulfil a planning condition on application F/2003/0341/GOV. The work was funded by Defence Estates USAF (contract No. DEUSF 12260). The site is located on Idaho Road within the base on level ground (5m OD) in a built up area within the base.

The primary interest in the site was based upon its location close to various sites dating from the Neolithic to Late Roman period.

Methodology and Results

The site was visited following soil stripping and the excavation of footing trenches associated with the building of the extension. The trenches were 1m deep and revealed 0.4m of dark silt/sand over glacial till and natural chalk. No evidence of any archaeological layers was found.

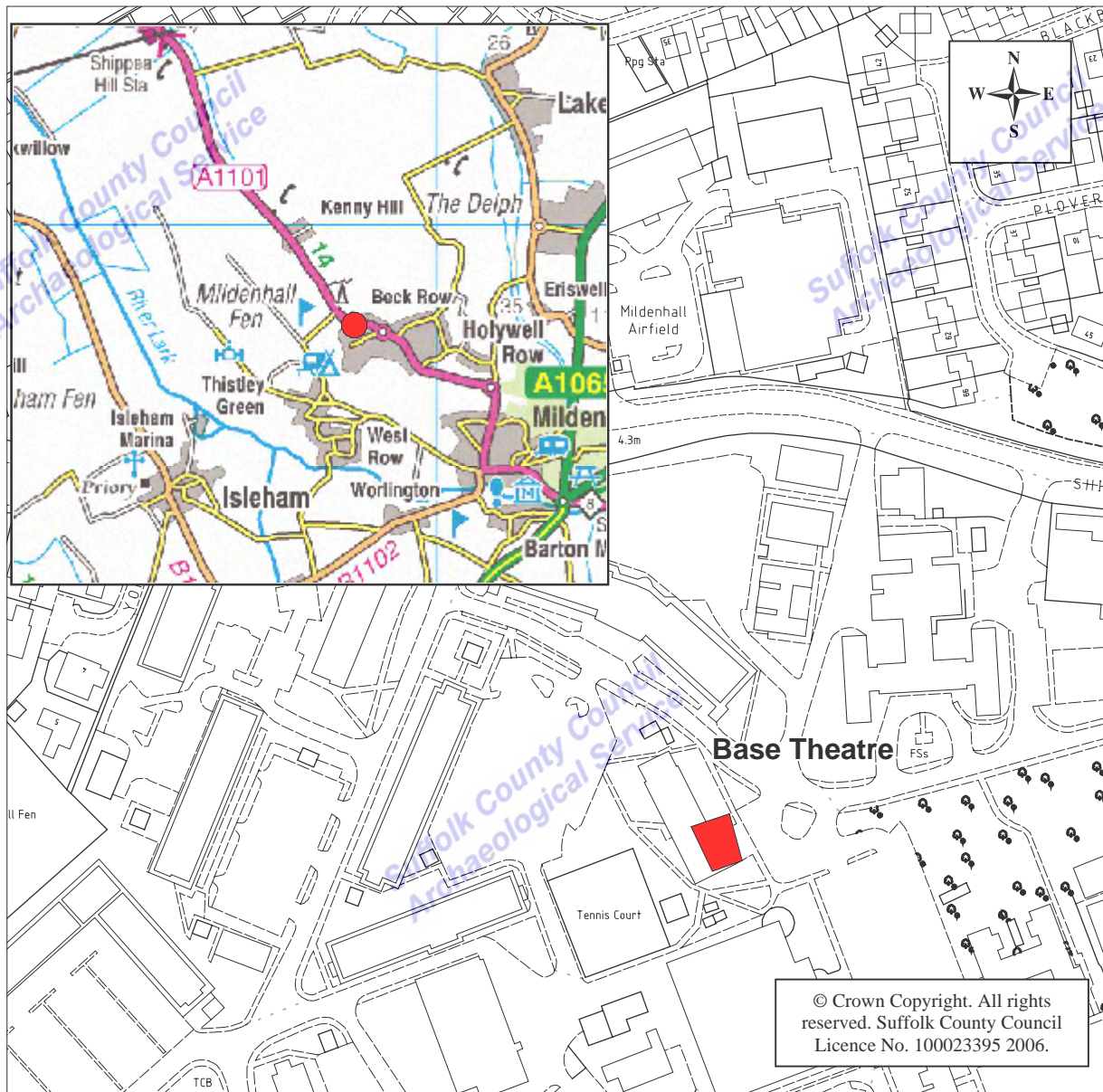


Figure 1. Site location plan

Discussion

No features of archaeological interest were identified and no finds were recovered from the site. The monitoring suggests there is no complex archaeology in this area of the base, however, the sample area is so small to draw wider conclusions beyond the limits of the theatre extension.

Andrew Tester
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