

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2013/084	Parish: Eye
MUGA Pitch, St Peter and St	Planning Application No: 1930/12
Paul Primary School, Church	OASIS No. 152685
Street, Eye	HER Event No.: EYE 118
	Grid Reference: TM 14887393
EYE 118	Number of Site visits: 2
	Date of visits: 11-12 th June 2013

Introduction

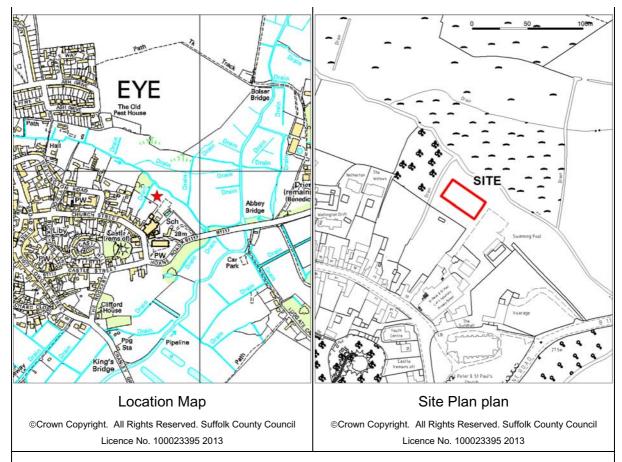
Two visits were made to the site to observe the site strip for a new MUGA pitch, measuring c.36m by c.18m, on an existing playing field to the rear of the school.

The work was required by a condition on the planning consent as the site is situated on the eastern edge of the historic core of Eye, (recorded in the County Historic Environment Record as EYE 091), c.100m north of the parish church (EYE 045) and c.100m north-east of Church Street, which follows the line of the former outer bailey of Eye castle (EYE 016).

The work was carried out to meet a Brief and Specification issued by Dr Jess Tipper of SCCAS/CT, the advisor to the local planning authority. The project was funded by Suffolk County Council.

Results

The project design had been modified to avoid causing deep disturbance to potential archaeological deposits. To reach construction formation level the site strip simply consisted of deturfing, followed by the removal of up to c.0.15m of modern topsoil. The topsoil, which contained mixed 20th century material, remained *in situ* across the whole site meaning there was no disturbance to any underlying soil layers or archaeological deposits.



Discussion

Although the monitored works were too shallow to be of archaeological interest it was noted that the machining was causing substantial ground vibration which was thought to indicate that the playing field could be situated upon peat deposits.

The playing field is bordered to the north-east by a stream or large ditch which drains into the River Dove, beyond which are the watermeadows and floodplain which surround the 'island' on which the historic town is located. Although this ditch is clearly marked on the First Edition Ordnance Survey it seems likely that the playing field, the level of which is not much different to the watermeadows, may once have been part of the floodplain and that the effective boundary of the historic town may have actually been on the playing fields southern side, where a more definite slope can be seen to begin rising to the rear of the school, church and properties on Church Street.

Finds: None

Recorded by: John Craven

Date: 12/06/2013