
SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

**Drift Cottage, Hemley
HMY 041**

**Planning application no. C/04/2331
Archaeological Monitoring Report no. 2006/139
OASIS ID No. 16137**

Summary

Hemley, Drift Cottage (TM/287423; HMY 041) Conditional planning consent for the construction of an extension and garage at Drift Cottage, Hemley, required archaeological monitoring of the associated groundworks. Despite the potential for evidence of medieval settlement, no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil or upcast spoil nor were any interventions observed within the exposed trench sections.

(Linzi Everett for S.C.C.A.S. and Drake and Plant Ltd.; report no. 2006/139)

1. Introduction

Conditional planning consent for work at Drift Cottage, Hemley, required a programme of archaeological monitoring. The site is centred on TM 2874 4231, at a height of approximately 7m OD, overlooking the eastern bank of the River Deben. The development lies within 70m of the medieval church and churchyard and immediately adjacent to an area of earthworks suggestive of medieval occupation (HMY 032). As such, there is believed to be potential for early occupation evidence to survive here.



Figure 1: Site location

2. Methodology

Vists made to the site by the Field Projects Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS) in order to inspect the excavated footings. The site was recorded under the SMR code HMY 041. A Brief and Specification for the archaeological work was produced by Bob Carr of the SCCAS Conservation Team (Appendix I). The monitoring work took place in March 2006 and was funded by Drake and Plant Ltd.

The monitoring archive is held in the county SMR in Bury St. Edmunds.

3. Results

Trenches were excavated to a depth of *c.* 2m showing the composition of the soil in the exposed sections. Where present, the topsoil comprised dark brown sandy loam topsoil *c.* 250mm thick and sealed a mid orangey brown sand natural subsoil. No features were observed in any of the footings, however, much of the area had been subject to modern disturbance, particularly adjacent to the existing house and where former outbuildings had been demolished.

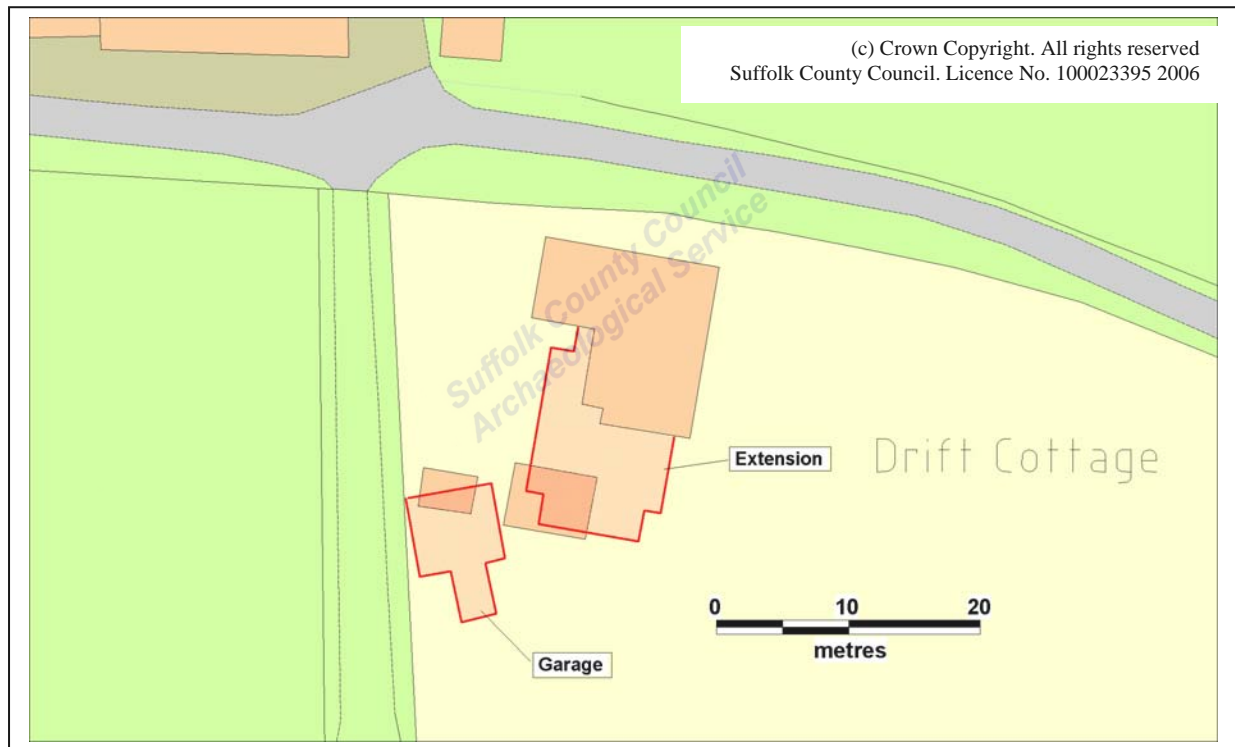


Figure 2: Location of excavated footings

5. Discussion

Despite the high potential for evidence of medieval settlement, no archaeological features or artefacts were revealed by the groundworks. However, the groundworks only provided a small window into the archaeology of the site and into an area where there had been some modern disturbance. It is still possible that deposits survive here, although they were not revealed during this event.

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